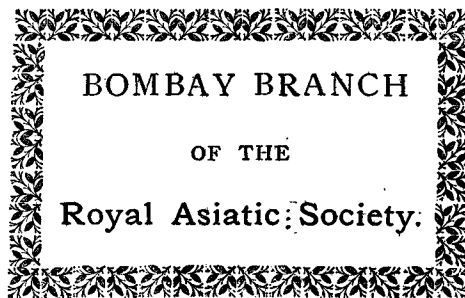


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ARCHÆOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA,
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1911-1912.



CALCUTTA:
THE BENGAL SECRETARIAT BOOK DEPOT
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No. 273.

FROM DR. D. B. SPOONER, B.A., PH D.,

Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Eastern Circle,

TO THE SECRETARY TO THE GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL,

GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

Dated Bankipore, the 1st June 1912.

SIR,

I HAVE the honour to submit herewith the Annual Report of the Archæological Survey, Eastern Circle, for the year ending 31st March 1912, with two plates for illustration. The report has been made as complete as possible, but up to the date of this letter the statement of expenditure on archæological works in Circle II of the Central Provinces, as also the details for part of Eastern Bengal have not been received. They will be forwarded to you later.

I fear that the length of the report may seem excessive, but I beg to point out that it is practically a double report, as the Assistant Superintendent, Mr. Blakiston, and I have of necessity written separate accounts of our work. Those portions which have been prepared by Mr. Blakiston are marked with his initials.

One set of the photographs taken during the year is submitted herewith, under separate cover. The others will be forwarded as soon as completed. I would add, however, that the photographs taken specially for the work on the List of Ancient Monuments have not been regularly registered, as many of them are of no permanent value. Prints from these negatives are accordingly not submitted with the others.

I have the honour to be,

SIR,

Your most obedient servant,

D. B. SPOONER,

Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Eastern Circle.

ANNUAL REPORT
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ARCHÆOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA, EASTERN CIRCLE
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ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
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FOR THE
YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 1912.

PART I.

GENERAL REMARKS.

1. *Departmental notes.*—As both Mr. Blakiston and I have been present throughout the year, there are no changes in the gazetted staff of this office to record except the separation of functions between the Assistant Superintendent and myself, which was sanctioned by the Government of Bengal on the 18th November and by the Government of the Central Provinces on the 31st January 1912. This important decision, in placing upon Mr. Blakiston as architectural expert the entire responsibility for all conservation work, has at last set me free to devote my attention to the research branch, a branch which was of necessity wholly neglected in the year 1910-11, and which could not be other than neglected under the old arrangements. Formerly the Assistant Superintendent was not authorized to sign any estimates or conservation notes independently, nor to correspond direct with Government. The Superintendent's countersignature was required in all cases, and it was through him that all correspondence passed. In other words, the full official responsibility for conservation as well as for research rested upon his shoulders. In these circumstances I, as the officer responsible to Government, felt compelled to keep in the closest possible touch with each and every detail of the conservation work, and as this involved personal visits to the various monuments it resulted in a duplication of Mr. Blakiston's tours which was judged unnecessary and undesirable, and in an almost total inability to give attention to what is more peculiarly my own branch, namely, the work of exploration. The decision of the Government to put the responsibility for architectural work upon its architectural expert was therefore a very welcome one to this office. It is to this directly that I owe the possibility of undertaking excavations at Basarh. Excavation work necessarily implies the continued presence in one place of the excavator for a protracted period, if the operations are to be continuously controlled and the records kept up with the exactitude that the modern scientific standards in such work require. And such protracted residence at one site is quite impossible if the excavator is to be at the same time responsible for the upkeep of ancient monuments scattered over four provinces. The decision in question makes, therefore, very directly for the interests of research, while it at the same time prevents the continual overlapping of duties and the duplication of work and touring which were the most conspicuous drawbacks to the old arrangement.

Owing to this decision, the bulk of this report, *i.e.*, all those paragraphs dealing with the subject of conservation, have been written by Mr. J. F. Blakiston, the Assistant Superintendent (Architecture) in this Circle, as I myself am no longer concerned with this work beyond being ready at all times to assist Mr. Blakiston with my advice whenever he wishes to consult me.

2. *The office.*—Beyond the appointment on probation of a fourth chaprassi, Gohar Ali, there have been no changes in the office establishment to record. Two of the peons, Dhuman Ram and Bhagirathi Upadhyaya, were on leave without allowances from the 15th May to the 10th July and from the 15th May to the 13th July respectively, and my clerk, Babu Makhan Lal Mullick, was on privilege leave from the 11th January to the 5th March, *viz.*, one month and twenty-four days, but with these exceptions the entire staff has been present throughout the year. They have performed their several duties to my entire satisfaction, and it is a pleasure to testify publicly to the quite exceptional zeal, enthusiasm and accuracy of my draftsman, Babu Hari Das Dutta, and to the very efficient work of my clerk, Babu Makhan Lal Mullick. The latter is indispensable in the office, while without the former the completeness and accuracy of my excavation records would have been almost impossible to attain. In such matters very much depends upon the skill and conscientiousness of one's native assistant, and it is a pleasure indeed to find that in the person of Babu Hari Das I have so unusually able a coadjutor.

The expenditure during the year under report has been as follows :—

1911-12.		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
<i>Salary of Gazetted officers—</i>							
Superintendent's pay from March to August 1911 at Rs. 600 per mensem...	...	3,600	0	0			
Superintendent's pay from 1st to 10th September 1911 at Rs. 600, and from 11th to 30th September 1911 at Rs. 625 per mensem ...	...	616	10	8			
Superintendent's pay from October 1911 to February 1912 at Rs. 625 per mensem ...	...	3,125	0	0			
Assistant Superintendent's pay from 17th March 1911 to February 1912 at Rs. 400 per mensem ...	...	4,593	8	9			
Mr. A. H. Longhurst's arrear salary from 1st February to 4th September 1910 at Rs. 25 per mensem ...	...	178	5	4			
					12,119	8	9
<i>Salary of non-Gazetted establishment—</i>							
2 Clerks ...	...	1,200	0	0			
1 Photographer ...	...	1,200	0	0			
2 Draftsmen ...	...	1,588	0	0			
3 Peons ...	...	288	0	0			
1 Peon from 18th October 1911 to February 1912 ...	...	36	2	1			
Privilege leave allowance from 11th January 1912 to 15th March 1912 at Rs. 50 per mensem, paid to a substitute ...	...	91	14	11			
Temporary establishment ...	...	88	9	3			
					4,492	10	3
<i>Allowances—</i>							
Travelling allowances, Gazetted officers...	...	3,901	9	0			
Ditto, establishment ...	...	1,401	14	3			
					5,303	7	3
<i>Supplies and Services—</i>							
Excavation charges ...	...	3,121	10	5			
Photographic charges ...	...	422	4	6			
					3,543	14	11
<i>Contingencies—</i>							
Hot and cold weather charges ...	...	63	9	6			
Postage and telegram charges ...	...	195	7	6			
Conveyance of stores, tents and records ...	...	726	2	0			
Purchase of books ...	...	584	13	0			
Do. of office furniture ...	...	45	0	0			
Miscellaneous ...	...	223	3	3			
Rents, rates and taxes ...	...	550	0	0			
Belts, badges and liveries to peons ...	...	4	0	0			
Purchase of country stationery ...	...	1	14	0			
Do. and repair of tents ...	...	30	1	0			
					2,423	2	3
Total	...				27,876	11	5

3. *Tour.*—The month of April 1911, practically as a whole, was spent by Mr. Blakiston and myself on a joint tour in the Central Provinces, where we inspected such monuments as were accessible to us within the time at our disposal, and I had the pleasure of going through the manuscript of Pandit Natesa Aiyar's useful catalogue to the antiquities in the Nagpur Museum with the author himself, who was then serving the Government of the Central Provinces temporarily as Archæological Assistant. On returning to Bankipore the annual report for 1910-11 was taken in hand, and this and the routine work of the office occupied me until July. The Assistant Superintendent proceeded to Simla on the 1st June for his three months' summer recess, whither I followed on the 5th July. From the 12th to the 19th of that month I had the privilege of attending the conference of Orientalists summoned by the Government of India, and thereafter continued on in Simla throughout the remainder of my own period of recess. Mr. Blakiston returned to head-quarters on the 4th September; and as his touring since then has been done independently, I will leave it to him to report to Government on this subject in a separate paragraph. I myself returned to Bankipore on the 11th October, and the remainder of this month and the first days of the next were spent in the routine work of the office. On the 10th November I started on a tour in Champaran district in connection with the proposed revision of the List of Ancient Monuments. At Bettiah on the 22nd of the month I was joined by Dr. Vogel, the officiating Director-General of Archæology, with whom I visited Lauriya Nandangarh, Rampurwa and the ancient fortress known as Janki-garh. Later we together visited the site of ancient Vaiśālī, now the village of Basarh in Muzaffarpur district, where on Dr. Vogel's advice I later undertook excavation, as will be shown in a subsequent paragraph. In December I attended the Darbar of His Majesty at Delhi, unofficially, and it was not until the 24th of January that I was able to go into camp at Basarh for the purpose of excavating as mentioned above. The entire remainder of the year was spent at this site. A detailed statement of the time occupied by these tours will be found in Appendix A.

4. *Assistant Superintendent's tour.*—Dr. Spooner has stated above how I spent the first five months of the financial year. I will therefore continue from the date at which he has left off—September 4th. On September 13th I started for a short tour of inspection in the Burdwan, Hooghly and Birbhum districts. I returned to head-quarters on the 18th, and from that date till October 24th my time was spent in office routine work and in making preparations for a tour in the Central Provinces. On the 25th I set out for the Central Provinces and was touring there up to December 8th. Places in the following districts were visited by me—Damoh, Jubbulpore, Narsingpur, Nimar, Akola, Amraoti, Chhindwara, Raipur, Bilaspur and Mandla. From December 9th to January 5th my time was occupied at head-quarters. On January 6th I set out to join Dr. Vogel, the officiating Director-General of Archæology, in Calcutta, and accompanied him to Bhubaneshwar, Puri and Konarak for a few days. I returned to Bankipore on January 19th *via* the Murshidabad and Sonthal Parganas districts. From that date to February 29th my time was occupied in routine work and in preparing lists of works to be undertaken by the different provinces during 1912-13. Between these dates I also paid visits to the Buddhist stupa at Kesaria in Champaran and to Sassaram in Shahabad. On March 1st I set out for Eastern Bengal and Assam, and visited places in the following districts—Jessore, Dacca, Mymensingh, Chittagong, Sylhet, Sibsagar, Rajshahi and Malda. I returned to Bankipore on the April 11th.

J. F. B.

5. *Conservation.*—Before proceeding to Mr. Blakiston's account of the conservation measures carried out during the year under review, I wish to refer to the remarks made by me on pages 6 and 7 of my Annual Report for 1910-11, regarding the apathy of certain officers of the Public Works Department towards archæological work. I am told that these remarks have been interpreted as of much wider application than had been my intention. They were meant to apply especially to one portion of this extensive circle, and to that portion only in part. My reference was rather to particular individuals than to any Division of the Public Works Department, still less to any province as a whole. It would be a matter of great regret to me

if my words should be thought to reflect in any way on the administration of the Central Provinces, where, of late years, the care and attention bestowed by the Local Government on the ancient monuments in its charge have left nothing to be desired.

D. B. S.

Dr. Spooner forwarded to the Bengal Government a list of 21 proposed works for 1911-12, viz.—

1. Repairs to the temple at Buddipur.
2. Raising shafts of Asoka columns at Rampurwa.
3. Constructing shelter for inscriptions at Rampurwa.
4. Repairs to Satgumbaz and Khan Jahan Ali's tomb at Bagerhat.
5. Repairs to courtyard wall at Hasan Khan's tomb in Sassaram and also certain buildings in the fort at Rohtas.
6. Repairs to certain temples, especially to the Jagamohan of the Chitrakarini at Bhubaneswar.
7. Planting trees at Konarak.
8. Repairs to top and sides of Agam Kuan, Patna.
9. Filling in cavity in stupa, Kesaria.
10. Repairing compound wall and paving remainder of courtyard, Burdwan.
11. Preservation of Shah Safi-ud-din's mosque at Panduah (Hooghly District).
12. Erecting a sculpture shed for the ancient statues at and near the temple, and raising the ancient pillars in front on a solid masonry foundation at Deo Banarak.
13. Repairs to the tomb of Alawal Khan, Sassaram.
14. Clearance of vegetation at the old mosque No. 19 in List of Ancient Monuments, Kalna.
15. Clearance of vegetation at the old tomb No. 18 in List of Ancient Monuments, Kalna.
16. Minor repairs to the Shamrai temple, Vishnupur.
17. Minor repairs to the Radha Sham temple, Vishnupur.
18. Minor repairs to the gateway of the Fort, Vishnupur.
19. Preservation of the old laterite temple, called Saresvar, Vishnupur.
20. Petty repairs to the old mosque No. 56 in List of Ancient Monument at Kharior.
21. Conservation of main and minor temples, Konarak.

Of these works No. 1 is reported be nearly completed, and Rs. 1,187 to have been expended in its conservation. No. 2 is in progress. No. 3 cannot be done till No. 2 is completed. No. 4 is completed, Rs. 289 having been spent. No. 5, only annual repairs have been done at Hasan Khan's tomb; Rs. 518 has been spent on buildings at Rhotasgarh during the year. A sum of Rs. 836 has been spent on No. 6. No. 7 has not been done. No. 8 does not appear to have been done. Nos. 9 and 10 have not been undertaken as the estimates for them were not approved by this office. Jungle has been cut; preservation has not been undertaken on No. 11. No. 12, Rs. 400 was sanctioned in March, the total estimate being Rs. 2,000. No. 13 is reported to have been finished. Nos. 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 have not been done. No. 20 has been done, and on No. 21 Rs. 447 has been expended on annual repairs.

The Government of India sanctioned a grant-in-aid of Rs. 4,500 as an additional grant. Of this, Rs. 1,091 was allotted to No. 2, Rs. 2,077 to No. 13 and Rs. 400 to No. 12. The balance Rs. 932 has been surrendered to the Financial Department of the Government.

To the Central Provinces Government the Superintendent, Archæological Survey, sent the following list of proposals for 1911-12:—

1. Certain restoration to the buildings in the Gawilgarh Fort at Chikalda.
2. Special repairs to the old brick temple at Sirpur.
3. Special repairs to Ballarpur Fort near Chanda.
4. Rebuilding a portion of the fort wall near the Vithoba Khirkée, Chanda.

5. Repairing, filling cracks and removing vegetation at fort at Balapur.
6. Large temple at Pali, removal of rank vegetation, etc.
7. Removal of vegetation from the Rahatgarh Fort, Longor Tahsil.
8. Certain improvements to the ancient temples at Baihar.
9. Repairs to the temple at Bargaon in Murwara Tahsil.
10. Repairs to the Vishnu Varaha temple at Majholi.
11. Repairs to the Ranmuktesvara temple at Kukkurmath, Mandla district.
12. Repairs to the Shiva temple at Deo Baloda, Drug district.
13. Repairs to the old temple of Kankali Devi at Tegowa.
14. Repairs to large image of Vishnu Varaha at Panagar, Jubbulpore district.
15. Collecting and fixing missing portions of images, Mandhata.
16. Nohta temple near Damoh, new compound wall.
17. Providing a railing to the compound of the temple at Arbhar.
18. Repairs to the Mandara tank in Seoni tahsil.

I cannot state definitely how many of these works have been undertaken or finished as the statement of expenditure from Circle II has not, as I write, been received. However, from information received from various sources I have prepared the following digest which may be of use. No. 1 has been completed to the extent of the estimate and a fresh estimate is to be prepared for additional works. No. 2 only needed to have the scaffolding removed when I saw it in November. Nos. 3 and 4 have been completed. No. 5 is nearly finished and No. 6 was nearly completed when I inspected it. Allotment to the full extent of the estimate was given for No. 7, and No. 8 was completed. Nos. 9, 10 and 11 are not yet begun. The major works on No. 12 were finished in 1910-11, but Rs. 200 is yet to be spent on small works noticed by me in a Conservation Note. No. 13 has not yet begun, and for No. 14 allotments have been granted to the full extent of the estimate. No. 15 was waiting for advice from this office, and No. 16 will probably be done during 1912-13. Allotments were given to No. 17. I have no information concerning No. 18.

The Imperial Government sanctioned Rs. 2,800 as a grant-in-aid, but details as to how this money was expended have not been forwarded to me.

For Eastern Bengal and Assam Dr. Spooner recommended the following four items, viz,—

1. Special repairs to the mosque at Bagha, Rajshahi district.
2. Special repairs to the archæological buildings at Gaur and Pandua, Malda district.
3. Restoration of the temple of Nigriting, Sibsagar district.
4. Improvements to the Dimapur ruins.

Repairs to No. 1 have been completed, and various works have been undertaken at No. 2. It was not possible to start Nos. 3 and 4 as advice was required concerning them from this department, and I was not able to inspect the places before March. However, it will be seen from the statements of expenditure in the Appendix that Rs. 491 was expended on the latter in annual repairs.

I have received no information as to how the Imperial grant of Rs. 4,339 was expended.

In Appendix B will be found statements of expenditure incurred on conservation works during the year under review. These statements are prepared under the orders of the respective Governments, which they concern, and are forwarded to this office to be incorporated in the annual report. In passing I would remark that it would be more convenient if they could be sent off to reach this office by the first week in May. The statements are entered here in the forms, in which they are received.

In my opinion archæological funds should not be expended on repairs to inspection bungalows. True the two I am referring to—viz., at Plassey and Rhotasgarh—were erected originally out of archæological money, but I do not think they should be a recurring expense to this department.

According to the statement of expenditure in Bengal, a sum of Rs. 2,000 has been spent on repairing the altar-piece at St. John's Church in Calcutta. It seems to me that this department should have been consulted in such a matter, but there is no correspondence in the office on the subject. When it is proposed to spend large sums and charge them to the Archaeological Survey Department, in my opinion the Superintendent should receive some information on the subject and estimates should be submitted before the work is carried out.

This department being advisers in all archaeological matters to the respective Governments which it serves, I would draw attention to the fact that estimates for conservation work should be submitted to it before being sent up to the Government for administrative approval and allotment of funds. On the 26th March of the year under review an estimate and plans reached me in Assam. They had received administrative approval, and a certain sum had been allotted. I was asked to sign the estimate and plans and return immediately as the sum allotted had to be spent before the end of the financial year. The design was not in my opinion suitable, and I had reluctantly to refuse my signature. Now, as this estimate had been sanctioned by the Superintending Engineer of the Circle in February 1910, much delay might have been avoided if the matter had been submitted to this office in the first place. If it had not been approved at the time by the Archaeological officer it could have been altered by the Public Works Department and returned to me. I could then have sent it for administrative approval and allotment of funds.

With the new arrangement of provinces it becomes evident that Bengal will be the looser with regard to its ancient monuments. True the beautiful structures at Gaur and Panduah have been returned to it after seven years' separation, but it has lost the valuable monuments at Bhuvaneshvar, Puri and Konarak in Orissa, Sher Shah's tomb at Sasaram and many other places of interest which it is unnecessary to mention here.

In Part II—*Notes on places visited*, I have tried to describe—in cases where conservation work has been carried out—what work has been done and whether, in my opinion, well or badly. Where I have visited a monument to see if it was worthy of conservation, I have not so much attempted to say what should be done, as this has usually been dealt with by me in a Conservation Note, but to describe the monument itself. These notes on places visited contain a notice of very nearly every place I have been able to inspect during the year—only a few places of no interest being omitted. The following Conservation notes on places I have inspected during my tours have been issued by me and sent to the respective Governments:—

1. Old fort at Lalbagh, Dacca, dated 4th April 1911.
2. Deo Baloda, Drug district, dated 2nd May 1911.
3. Vishnu Varaha image, Panagar, Jubbulpore district, dated 3rd May 1911.
4. Ballarpur Fort, Chanda district, dated 15th May 1911.
5. Temple of Chhaunsath Jogini at Bheraghat, Jubbulpore district, dated 17th May 1911.
6. Fort, temples and tombs at Chanda, dated 19th May 1911.
7. Panchmatha temples at Garha, Jubbulpore district, dated 13th October 1911.
8. Mosques and tombs, etc., at Borhanpur, Nimar district, dated 3rd January 1912.
9. Tombs of Sher Afgan and Kutbuddin, Burdwan district, dated 6th January 1912.
10. Udayagiri caves, Puri district, dated 19th January 1912.
11. Mosque at Kharaul, Murshidabad district, dated 22nd January 1912.
12. Black Pagoda, Konarak, Puri district, dated 22nd January 1912.
13. Puri, dated 22nd January 1912.
14. Bhuvaneshvar, Puri district, dated 22nd January 1912.
15. Temple at Burgaon, Jubbulpore district, dated 12th February 1912.
16. Balapur Fort, Akola district, dated 13th February 1912.
17. Mandhata, Nimar district, dated 22nd February 1912.

The following seven Conservation Notes are, as I write, in the Press:—

1. Gawilgarh Fort, Amraoti district, dated 5th March 1912.
2. Sibsagar district, dated 16th April 1912.
3. Gaur and Panduah, Malda district, dated 22nd April 1912.
4. Dimapur, Assam, dated 24th April 1912.
5. Mymensingh district, dated 29th April 1912.
6. Temple at Nigrating, Sibsagar district, dated 30th April 1912.
7. Ranmuktesvara temple, Mandla district, dated 2nd May 1912.

J. F. B.

6. *Exploration.*—The necessity of taking in hand seriously the revision of the List of Ancient Monuments in November, and the numerous official holidays in December, made the commencing of excavation work inadvisable until January. The site selected was the citadel of old Vaisāli, where my predecessor, Dr. Bloch, had made trial excavations in 1903-04. A preliminary account of these operations is given in Part II of this report, so that for the present it will suffice to note that the excavations continued from January 26th to March 31st, and involved a total expenditure of Rs. 3,121-10-5, which sum was drawn entirely from the grant for excavations in the budget of this office. The finds, it will be seen from the account in Part II, were numerous, including about 275 inscribed clay seals, some of which are of great interest and value. They are all intended for the Indian Museum, Calcutta.

7. *List of Ancient Monuments.*—An attempt was made last autumn to take up the projected revision of the List of Ancient Monuments in Bengal along systematic lines, and for this purpose I proceeded to Motihari on the 10th November for an extended tour of the Champaran district. My intention was to bring out first of all the Tirhut Divisional volume of the revised list, and I proposed to myself to visit all the monuments of the four districts of this Division. I found, however, that the inclusion of modern buildings (that is to say of buildings under one hundred years old), which Government had ordered, rendered the task gigantic. I can understand the reason for the inclusion of such buildings, and am myself of opinion that, from the ideal point of view, their inclusion is very desirable. The chief purpose of the list is to let Government see what exists in its territory, and a thoroughly inclusive catalogue is urgently needed. It would be a mistake to limit this to the more important buildings only. Granting an accurate, consistent and reliable classification of monuments, the specific mention in the list of all modern structures, and their clear specification as modern and valueless, is much to be desired. It is precisely in regard to such worthless buildings that time has been lost in correspondence, and money wasted on unnecessary touring, in the past, and it would certainly be ideal to have a list so thoroughly inclusive that all concerned could see at a glance the comparative worth of any building whatsoever, whenever proposals for its repair were received. But I found on attempting to visit every wayside shrine, every mosque and every temple in every town and every village, as well as every tomb on every road, and every lonely mound in every jungle, that the programme was a very much larger one than I had realised. For the district of Champaran I visited the majority of the existing monuments in person (excepting some of the more remote ones in the jungle near Tribeni, which time did not permit of my inspecting), and my photographers brought me prints of others which from their modern date and their total lack of architectural interest I judged did not require a personal inspection. Thus for this one district I now have, not wholly complete material, but by far the greater bulk of the material required for the projected revision, and this district could now be completed without much difficulty. But my experiences in Champāran opened my eyes to the impracticability of attempting so over-ambitious a scheme elsewhere. The only way in which I can hope to carry out the revision at all along the lines described above is to send out photographic parties in advance, who shall bring in for my inspection as complete and inclusive a set of photographs of all the buildings in a particular district as they can possibly get together. On these prints as a basis I can determine which structures merit a personal visit of inspection, and I can also judge with sufficient accuracy of the importance, and thereby

of the proper classification, of the others. With this intention I sent two photographers into Saran district in the month of January 1912, and they returned with six dozen negatives. But I fear the district is not yet exhausted by any means, and as I have not found opportunity to visit any of the sites myself, I cannot claim that my materials for the revision in this case are anywhere near completion, although I think they could be completed within a reasonable period. The Saran tour was terminated by the Assistant Superintendent's imperative need of one photographer to accompany him on his tour in Assam and by my own equally imperative need of the other at my excavations in Basarh. I had hoped that the men could tour from Basarh as a centre, also, and in this way complete their photographic record of the Muzaffarpur district, but the exigencies of my excavation work prevented. I was very short-handed at Basarh, and could hardly have got along at all had it not been for the kindness of the Director-General of Archæology, who loaned me the services of two of his own staff. Thus my hope of bringing out in final form one divisional volume of the revision this spring has been disappointed. But definite progress has been made, and I shall hope to complete the Tirhut volume before the next annual report is due. I fear, though, that I may have to ask ultimately for an additional photographic staff temporarily. The present establishment of this office is not quite adequate to the task, and I am at times doubtful of being able to bring out a complete first-hand revision for Bihar and Orissa, as well as for Bengal and Eastern Bengal, within reasonable time, unless at least my photographic staff is extended. A revision of sorts could presumably be brought out within a comparatively short time, were I to abandon my proposal to visit the monuments in person. A great deal of material exists in this office for such a revision, as I have already reported to Government. But such a revision, being mere desk work, and being based on the judgments and descriptions of a vast number of different individuals, would inevitably suffer from the same defects that are apparent in the list published in 1895. To be of real use the classification of the monuments should be consistent, accurate, and authoritative, and unless the revision is based upon the first-hand knowledge of one qualified individual, it seems impossible to hope that it should bear these characteristics. However, it may be that my hope of making the work strictly first-hand is too ambitious. It may not be feasible, concretely, for one officer to compile, in addition to his other work, a completely exhaustive and minutely detailed encyclopædic account of every building, ancient or modern, throughout so vast a territory, on the basis of personal inspection. If this prove to be the case, I shall perforce have to revert to the proposal of drawing up the revision on the basis of outside returns. But before this is done, I should like if possible to test the feasibility of a first-hand revision further. Such a list as I propose would be of great and constant utility to the Government, but I confess that at times I am almost appalled at the magnitude of the task before me. But an adequate staff of temporary photographers would greatly reduce the difficulties with which the officer responsible to Government for this work is faced.

8. *Drawings and photographs.*—The usual lists of the drawings made and photographs taken during the year are given in Appendices C and D.

9. *Epigraphy.*—Apart from the large number of inscribed seals recovered in the excavations at Basarh, the only new epigraphical discovery which has come to the notice of this office during the year under review was made by certain members of the Bangiya Sahitya Parishat, and very kindly reported by them to Government. The inscription is said to be in Sanskrit, but to have been broken up and built into a mosque at Mangalkot, in the Katwa subdivision of the Burdwan district. The writing is very faint, but mention in the inscription appears to be made of a King of Bengal named Chandra Sēna.

10. *Treasure Trove.*—(1) *General remarks.*—It is a pleasure to record the fact that new rules to regulate procedure under the Treasure Trove Act were issued by the Government of Bengal on the 15th February 1912. The rules in force before that date did not include any specific mention of cases of treasure not consisting of coins, and no adequate measures were in force for the proper examination of such finds. The new rules are a great improvement in this respect, as they lay it down that in cases where treasure not consisting of coins is found, timely notice should be sent by the local officer to the

Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Eastern Circle, and the Superintendent shall be afforded an opportunity of inspecting the treasure and advising Government as to the desirability of its acquisition. Where treasure trove consists of coins, however, the procedure remains as before; that is, the coins as a whole, or selected specimens, are sent for examination and report to the numismatic expert to the Government, and on receiving his report Government informs the Superintendent, Archæological Survey, of the disposal which they approve. As it is further laid down that the Superintendent shall submit an annual statement showing the number of finds made and how they were disposed of, the present paragraph is included in this report. But the cases dealt with during the year have been very few. It should be remembered, however, that the new rules issued very recently, and that a certain amount of confusion or doubt as to what procedure should be followed appears to have existed hitherto.

(2) *Treasure Trove coins.*—(a) On the 31st January 1911 a find of thirty-three rupees was made in the foundations of a ruined house in the village of Paehlakhi in the Siwan subdivision of Saran district. It is not known to me what disposal was made of this treasure, but since the coins were ordinary rupees ranging in date from 1842 to 1890, it is presumable that none were acquired. The find was not reported to Government until the 25th May.

(b) On the 8th May 1911, a small brass pot containing 25 silver coins was found at Chhatimtola, district Nadia. These were examined by Mr. C. S. Delmerick, who reported that they were all very common and not worth acquiring. They were Shah Alam coins of the Murshidabad Mint, regnal year 19, Hijri 1193.

(c) On the 16th June 1911, eight coins found on the 3rd March 1910 were forwarded to Government by the Collector of Champaran. No find-spot appears to have been mentioned. The coins were examined by Mr. Delmerick, and found to be Shah Alam coins minted by the East India Company at Benares. None were considered worth acquiring.

(d) On the 26th September 1911, the Collector of Murshidabad forwarded to me direct, for transmission to the Indian Museum for sale, seven coins of Shah Alam found together with six 1835 and 1840 coins at some unspecified place. The last-named six were credited into the local treasury as forfeit. The coins were forwarded by me to the Indian Museum on the 13th October 1911. The procedure in this case appears to have been quite irregular, as no coins should have been sent to me direct.

3. *Treasure Trove, not coins.*—(a) The most important case of treasure trove not consisting of coins which I have to report is the discovery, some time in the summer of 1910, of a large earthen pot containing images, in a field near Sahebgunj, thana Gobindganj, in the Gaibandha subdivision of the Rangpur district of Eastern Bengal. Mr. Tindall, the officiating Collector of Rangpur, appears to have taken very judicious action, and forwarded an admirable report on the discovery to the Commissioner of the Rajshahi Division. But as the rules in force at that time did not recognize the Government Archæologist as the officer to deal with such cases, no intimation of the discovery was forwarded to this office. The action taken by the local officer, however, appears to have been admirable.

The images were five in number, and appear to be of great age. They are of metal, but as I have not seen the result of the assay, which Mr. Tindall proposed in his report to have made, I cannot state what the composition of this metal is.

The description furnished to Government shows that the images were—

- (1) A large stand representing Vishnu with Lakshmī and Prithivi.
Height of the largest image with its lotus, $21\frac{3}{4}$ inches. The total height including screen and pedestal is not given.
- (2) Vishnu with attendants; the image measures 18 inches, the lotus stand $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches; total height with pedestal and screen 2 feet 10 inches.
- (3) Vishnu with attendants; total height with screen $22\frac{1}{2}$ inches.
- (4) Ditto ; total height $13\frac{1}{2}$ inches.
- (5) Ditto ; height with pedestal and screen 12 inches.

It is not known to me as yet what final decision, if any, has been reached in regard to the disposal of this treasure, but from the departmental point of view, the acquisition of all five for the Indian Museum in Calcutta is very greatly to be desired, as the images are of altogether exceptional interest and value archæologically.

(b) The treasure found at Sitahati in the Burdwan district, which was mentioned in my last year's report, was deposited in the Calcutta Museum in December 1911.

The Treasure consisted of the following articles :—

- (1) One copper-plate *grant*, in Sanskrit, of the time of Ballāla Sēna, with large boss bearing an image in relief. An account of this inscription was given last year.
- (2) One battered copper disc.
- (3) Four fragments of tin.
- (4) Two small conch shells.
- (5) One censer.
- (6) Four small brass stands.

The smaller finds were of no special importance, although the form of the censer was not without interest. But it seemed desirable to keep the entire treasure together, and the minor finds were acquired with the copper-plate. The copper-plate itself, however, is the only important article in this collection.

(c) On the 25th May 1911, the Collector of Saran reported that on the 2nd November 1910 four slabs of zinc had been found in village Guthni, under the ruins of a house. The value of this zinc was said to be Rs. 20, but as the treasure had apparently no antiquarian interest, no proposals were made for its acquisition.

11. *The Assistant Superintendent's programme for 1912-13.*—I think that my proposals for works to be undertaken by the various Governments may be best explained by quoting in condensed form the lists, which I have sent in. The first, that for Bengal as it stood before 1st April 1912, was sent to that Government on February 19th and is as follows :—

1. Making a scaffolding to examine the dome of Sher Shah's tomb.
2. Conservation of temple at Buddipur, Burdwan district.
3. Removing the Asoka columns at Rampurwa, Champaran district.
4. Constructing a shelter for inscriptions on Asoka column at Rampurwa, Champaran district.
5. Repairs to Satgumbaz and Khan Jhan Ali's tomb, Bagerhat, Khulna district.
6. Removing houses abutting against the compound wall of Hasan Shah's tomb, Sassaram.
7. Restoring the compound wall round No. 6.
8. Planting trees in compound of Black Pagoda, Konarak, Puri district.
9. Conservation works at the stupa near Kesaria, Champaran district.
10. Preservation of Shah Safi-ud-din's mosque at Panduah, Hooghly district.
11. Erecting a sculpture shed and raising pillars in front on a solid foundation at the temple at Deo Banarak, Shahabad district.
12. Repairs to the tomb of Alawal Khan at Sassaram.
13. Clearance of vegetation from mosque No. 19 in List of Ancient Monuments, Kalna, Burdwan district.
14. Clearance of vegetation from old tomb No. 18 in List of Ancient Monuments, Katwa, Burdwan district.
15. Clearing jungle, etc., from mosque No. 56 in List of Ancient Monuments at Kharaul, Murshidabad district.
16. Preservation of main and minor temples, Konarak.
17. Works at the tombs of Sher Afgan, etc., Burdwan.
18. Repairing the image of Buddha, etc., Ghinjan, Gaya district.
19. Repairing temple of Sareswar in the village of Dihari, Vishnupur, Bankura district.

20. Certain works at the temples proposed by Assistant Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Bhubanesvar, Puri district.
21. Works proposed by Assistant Superintendent, Archæological Survey, at the Udayagiri and Khandagiri caves at Bhubanesvar.
22. Erecting a sculpture shed at Konarak.

Since the list was forwarded to Government, it has been learned that Nos. 5 and 12 were completed in 1911-12 and that No. 2 is nearly finished and Rs. 400 has been sanctioned for No. 11. Now that this list has been broken up, the greater proportion of the works, excluding Nos. 5 and 12, falls into the hands of the new Province of Bihar and Orissa. Only Nos. 2, 10, 13, 14, 15, 17 and 19 now remain in Bengal. In a subsequent letter No. 117A.S., dated 13th April 1912, to the latter Government, I have recommended that works be undertaken at Gaur and Panduah in the Malda district, and at some monuments in the Mymensingh district, both of which districts have now come over from the old Province of Eastern Bengal and Assam.

To the Government of the Central Provinces I forwarded on February 21st the following list:—

1. Erecting a shelter for the Asoka inscription at Deotak, Chanda district.
2. Certain works at the old fort, Balapur, Akola district.
3. Building buttresses, etc., to two temples at Baihar, Balaghat district.
4. Repairs to the Kankali Devi temple at Tegowa, Jubbulpore district.
5. Providing a railing to the compound of the temple at Arbhor, Bilaspur district.
6. Certain works at the Markanda and Dasavatar temples, Weinganga River, Chanda district.
7. Clearing and cutting jungle at the fort at Rahatgarh, Saugor district.
8. Repairs to the Vishnu Varaha temple at Majholi, Jubbulpore district.
9. Repairs to the Ranmuktesvara temple at Kukurmah, Mandla district.
10. Small repairs to Shiva temple at Deo-Baloda, Drug district.
11. Repairs to the Mandara tank, Seoni.
12. Repairs to the tomb of Adil Shah, Burhanpur, Nimar district.
13. Repairs to the platform of the Vishnu Varaha image at Panagar, Jubbulpore district.
14. Providing a roof over the sculptures at the temple at Bheraghat, Jubbulpore district.
15. Repairs to the Vishnu Varaha temple, Burgaon, Jubbulpore district.
16. Repairs to small temple, Kundalpur, Damoh district.
17. Various conservation work at Mandhata, Nimar district.
18. Various conservation work at Burhanpur, Nimar district.
19. Certain repairs to buildings in Gawilgarh Fort, Chikalda, Amraoti district.
20. Repairs to the temple of Anandesvar at Lasur near Daryapur, Amraoti district.
22. Repairing the bund, removing shrubs and pointing the masonry dam of the tank at Sinkhed, Buldana.
23. Repairs to the mosque and fort at Narsingarh, Damoh district.
24. Repairs to Panchmatha temples at Garha, Jubbulpore district.

To this list has since been added—

1. Protecting the inscription in Asirgarh Fort, Nimar district.
2. Repairs to the temple near Chowragarh Fort, Narsingpur district.

Since sending in my proposals the Government informs me that allotments to the full amount of the estimates have been given during 1911-12 for Nos. 1-7 and 13, though surrender to the amount of Rs. 304 and Rs. 500 has been made in the case of Nos. 4 and 6.

On April 13th of this year the following list of proposals was forwarded by me to the Government of Assam—

1. Re-erection of fallen monuments at Dimapur, Cachar district.
2. Repairs to the Sibdole temple at Nigrating, Sibsagar district.
3. General repairs to the Sibdole and Durgadole temples at Sibsagar.
4. General repairs to the Sibdole temple at Gaurisagar near Sibsagar.
5. Fixing wire screens and doing small repairs at the Bishnudole temple at Jaisagar near Sibsagar.

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12. *Superintendent's programme.*—The months of April and May have been devoted to the closing of the work at Basarh, the removal of the finds to Bankipore, the preliminary study of certain of the seals, and the preparation of this report. The recent departure on sick leave, for one month, of Mr. R. D. Banerjee, of the Archæological Section of the Indian Museum, will, it is expected, lead to my spending the month of June in Calcutta, as the Director-General's deputy at the Museum, but the question has not been finally settled up to the time of submitting this report. For the remainder of the summer my intention is to devote such time as may prove possible to the classification and sifting of the material in the office for the revision of the List of Ancient Monuments in Bengal, and to the preparation of certain publications, especially the final paper on the Basarh excavations and the editing of the Sitahati copper plate, of which the translation was finished long ago. In this connection I may add that the Government Epigraphist has very kindly drawn my attention to another copper-plate of about the same date in the possession of Mr. G. A. Schumacher of Calcutta, and with Mr. Schumacher's permission, I hope to publish the two together, as they are closely related. In the autumn it is hoped that opportunity will offer for touring in connection with the revision of the list, while the winter months I hope can be given to exploratory work in the field, either by further excavations at Basarh, or by the examination of some other site, if it prove feasible to undertake one of the larger and still more important centres. Basarh is not lacking in promise, but it is possible that certain other sites in the circle of equal historic importance would yield more generously.

D. B. SPOONER,

Superintendent, Archæological Survey,

Eastern Circle.

APPENDIX A.

THE following statement shows the amount of time spent on tour :—

DR. D. B. SPOONER.

1911.

April 8th to 15th	...	Inspection tours to Gurha, Tewar, Bheraghat in the Jubbulpore district, Bansipur and Nohda in the Damoh district.
„ 16th to 17th	...	Patera and Kundalpur in the Damoh district.
„ 18th to 19th	...	Bilaspur.
„ 20th to 21st	...	Raipur.
„ 22nd to 26th	...	Nagpur.
„ 27th to 28th	...	Jubbulpore.
„ 29th to 30th	...	Panagar, Jubbulpore district.
July 5th to October 11th	...	Summer recess in the hills, Simla.
„ 12th to 19th	...	For attending Oriental Conference, Simla.
October 16th to November 10th	...	For taking impressions of the Dhauli Rock Inscriptions (Head Draftsman).
November 10th to 29th	...	Motihari, Pipra, Sagardip, Vediban, Sitakund, Lauriya Araraj, Bettiah, Lauriya Nandangarh Harinagar, Basarh, Kolhua, Bakhra in the Champaran and Muzaffarpur districts in connection with the revision of the List of Ancient Monuments in Bengal.
December 29th to 31st	...	Bodh Gaya in Gaya district and Sassaram in Shahabad district.

1912.

January 10th to 28th	...	For taking photographs in connection with the revision of the List of Ancient Monuments in Bengal, in the Saran district. (Head Photographer and second Draftsman.)
January 24th to April 10th	...	Excavation at Basarh in the Muzaffarpur district.

J. F. BLAKISTON, Esq.

1911.

April 8th to 18th	...	Inspection of ancient monuments in Jubbulpore and Damoh districts, Central Provinces.
„ 19th	...	Bilaspur district.
„ 20th	...	Janjgir, Bilaspur district.
„ 20th	...	Raipur.
„ 21st	...	Deo Baloda, Drug district.
„ 22nd to 23rd	...	Chanda.
„ 24th	...	Fort and Ballalshah's Tomb at Ballarur near Chanda.
„ 25th to 26th	...	Nagpur.
„ 27th to 28th	...	Jubbulpore.
„ 29th to 30th	...	Panagar, Jubbulpore district.
June 1st to September 4th	...	Recess in the hills.
September 13th to 14th	...	Burdwan.
„ 15th	...	Buddipur, Chinsurah, etc.
„ 16th	...	Suri, Birbhum district.
„ 17th to 18th	...	Pandavesvar.

APPENDIX A—concluded.

1911.

October 25th	...	Katni.
„ 26th	...	Burgaon.
„ 27th	...	Damoh.
„ 28th to 29th	...	Narsinghar.
„ 30th	...	Rajnagar, Damoh district.
„ 31st	...	Majholi, Jubbulpore district.
November 1st	...	Tegowa, ditto.
„ 2nd to 3rd	...	Chawgaon and Chawragarh, Narsingpur district.
„ 4th to 6th	...	Mandhata, Nimar district.
„ 7th to 9th	...	Burhanpur, ditto.
„ 10th	...	Balapur Fort, Akola district.
„ 11th to 12th	...	Lasur, Amraoti district.
„ 13th to 17th	...	Gawilgarh Fort at Chikalda, Amraoti district.
„ 18th to 22nd	...	Nilkanthi, Chhindwara district.
„ 23rd to 26th	...	Raipur.
„ 27th to 29th	...	Bilaspur.
„ 30th to December 8th	...	Kukkurmath, Mandla district.

1912.

January 6th to 7th	...	Devanandpur, Hooghly district.
„ 8th to 9th	...	Bhubaneswar, Puri district.
„ 10th to 12th	...	Puri and Konarak.
„ 13th to 14th	...	Cuttack.
„ 15th to 16th	...	Kharaul, Murshidabad district.
„ 17th to 19th	...	Rajmahal, Sonthal Parganas district.
February 1st	...	Kesaria, Champaran district.
„ 4th to 6th	...	Sassaram, Shahabad district.
March 1st to 5th	...	Muhammadpur, Jessore district.
„ 6th to 8th	...	Dacca.
„ 9th to 11th	...	Agarsindur, Mymensingh district.
„ 12th	...	Gurai, ditto.
„ 13th to 15th	...	Chittagong.
„ 16th to 19th	...	Sylhet.
„ 20th to 22nd	...	Sibsagar.
„ 23rd to 25th	...	Nigriting, Sibsaigar district.
„ 26th to 27th	...	Dimapur, ditto.
„ 28th to 29th	...	Bogra.
„ 30th to 31st	...	Bagha, Rajshahi district.
April 1st to 3rd	...	Kusumbha, ditto.
„ 4th to 11th	...	Gaur and Panduah in the Malda district.

APPENDIX B.

Statement of expenditure on conservation work during 1911-12 in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.

District.	Locality.	PARTICULARS OF WORK.	Amount sanctioned.	Amount spent.	REMARKS.
			Rs.	Rs.	
Calcutta ...	Calcutta ...	Restoring Laffong's altar-piece in St. John's Church.	...	2,000	
	Ditto ...	Maintaining tablets and lines of demarcation in connection with old Fort William.	150	147	
	Ditto ...	Ordinary repairs to Holwell's monument ...	124	124	
24-Parganas ...	Dum-Dum ...	Ditto to the tablet at Dum-Dum House.	5	5	
	Paikpara ...	Ordinary repairs to the tablet of Sir Robert Chambers.	5	5	
	Belghoria ...	Ordinary repairs to the Semaphore Tower ...	13	13	
	Barrackpore ...	Ditto ditto in the Park.	60	47	
Calcutta ...	Calcutta ...	Repairs to towers, pillars and monuments on the maidan.	450	454	} Completed.
	Ditto ...	Fixing a new marble stone tablet with inscription on the monument of the late Justice Le Maistre in the South Park Street cemetery.	66	66	
Darjeeling ...	Darjeeling ...	Quadrennial repairs to the tomb of General Lloyd in the cemetery.	5	5	
	Ditto ...	Annual repairs to tomb of Csoma De Koros in the cemetery.	10	10	
	Ditto ...	Fitting and fixing new tablet on the grave of Csoma de Koros in the cemetery.	6	3*	
Purnea† ...	Goonamati ...	Annual repairs to tomb of John Macguire ...	4	3	
Sambalpur† ...	Sonepur ...	Ditto to the grave of Miss Amelia ...	10	10	
Balasore† ...	Balasore ...	Repairs to two Dutch tombs ...	15	15	
Puri† ...	Bhubaneswar ...	Making certain works in the temples § ...	1,228	616	} In progress.
	Dhauli Hill ...	Extension of the roof of Asoka inscriptions on the Dhauli Hill.	112	55	
	Ditto ...	Erecting a platform to take a copy of the inscription on the Dhauli Hill.	24	20	
	Bhubaneswar ...	Repairs to temples* ...	225	220	
	Konarak ...	Ditto ...	475	447	
	Dhauli Hill ...	Repairs to shed over Asoka inscription on the Dhauli Hill.	5	5	
Cuttack† ...	Jajpur ...	Exterminating jungle from ancient monuments	37	58	
Hooghly ...	Chinsura ...	Quadrennial repairs to old Dutch tombs in the cemetery.	175	174	
24-Parganas ...	Sundarbans ...	Clearing jungles around the Jatar Dewl Temple	...	33	} Completed.
Khulna ...	Bagirhat ...	Annual repairs to Satgambaz and the tomb of Khan Jahan Ali.	300	289	
Murshidabad ...	Kharaul ...	Annual repairs to Kharaul mosque ...	10	10	
	Murshidabad ...	Ordinary repairs to tomb of Sarfaraz Khan ...	2	2	
	Ditto ...	Quadrennial repairs to Azimunnissa Begum's tomb.	159	155	
	Ditto ...	Ordinary repairs to Mir Madan's tomb ...	2	2	
	Plassey ...	† Ditto to new inspection bungalow	275	253	
	Murshidabad ...	Quadrennial repairs to Khasbagh and Rasanbagh mausoleums.	583	587	
	Ditto ...	Annual repairs to Nizamat tombs ...	...	1,479*	
Carried over ...			4,535	7,312	

* From contribution fund.

§ † presumably the Yamesvara Temple. — J. F. B.

† Bihar and Orissa.

APPENDIX B—concluded.

Statement of expenditure on conservation work during 1911-12 in Bengal, Bihar and Orissa.

District.	Locality.	PARTICULARS OF WORK.	Amount sanctioned.	Amount spent.	REMARKS.
			Rs.	Rs	
		Brought forward ...	4,535	7,312	
Gaya†	Ghenjan ...	Constructing boundary pillars at the four corners of the shed.	31	30	Completed.
	Rajgir ...	Strengthening the Maniyar math ...	200	132	In progress.
	Ghenjan ...	Cementing the images of Buddha and supplying and fixing a railing round the shed in which the images are kept	122	109	}
Patna†	Patna City ...	Annual repairs to tall stone shaft ...	14	13	
	Bankipur ...	Ditto to Major Knox's tomb in the civil court compound.	8	8	
Gaya†	Gaya ...	Annual repairs to Bodh Gaya buildings ...	362	358	
Patna†	Maner ...	Ditto to Madan Shah's tomb ...	200	158	} Completed.
	Bihar ...	Ditto to Syed Ibrahim's tomb ...	25	10	
Gaya†	Daudnagar ...	Ditto to Shamsher Nagger tomb ...	40	40	
	Gunerī ...	Ditto to Buddha's temple ...	14	13	
	Rajgir ...	Ditto to Mahadev temple ...	59	39	}
	Do. ...	Ditto to Jain temple ...	12	12	
Shahabad†		Erecting sculpture shed for the ancient statues at or near the temple of Deo Bonarak and for raising the ancient pillars in front of the temple solid masonry foundation.	2,000	400	In progress.
Arrah†	Arrah ...	Annual repairs to soldier's tombs ..	7	7	}
Shahabad†	Buxar ...	Ditto to tombs ...	10	9	
	Chainpur ...	Ditto to Bukhtiyar Khan's tomb ...	160	145	
	Bhabna ...	Ditto to Mundeswari temple ...	15	12	
	Shergarh ...	Ditto to the Fortress ...	30	29	}
	Rohtasgarh ...	Renewing the entrance door to Harish Chandra temple.	96	99	
	Ditto ...	Repairs to Rhotas Fort ...	293	287	
	Ditto ...	Ditto Inspection Bungalow ...	137	132	
	Ditto ...	Repairs to ancient monuments and buildings in the Rohtas plateau	86	91	} Completed.
	Sassaram ...	Repairs to Sher Shah's tomb ...	15	12	
	Ditto ...	Do. to Hasan Sur Shah's tomb ...	14	13	
	Ditto ...	Do. to Alwal Khan's tomb ...	...	2,017	
	Ditto ...	Clearing jungles in Alwal Khan's tomb ...	10	10	}
Sara†	Chapra ...	Repairs to soldiers' tomb ...	11	13	
Champanar†	Gobindganj ...	Do. to Asoka pillars ...	24	27	
	Lauriya ...	Do. to ditto ...	25	22	
	Rampurwa ...	Removing the shaft of the northern and southern columns to the top of low mounds.	10,338	2,042	In progress.
Hooghly	Pandua and Tribeni.	Clearing jungles and shrubs from the ancient buildings.	150	147	} Completed.
	Serampore ...	Annual repairs to Henry Martin's pagoda ...	74	49	
Burdwan	Buddipur ...	Repairing the temple ...	1,189	1,187	
Birbhum	Sanatore in Suri.	Providing a notice board to the temple called Rashmancha.	17	17	}
	Ditto ...	Thorough repairs to the Damodar maudir ...	310	141	
		Total ...	20,636	15,142	

P. W. D.—NOTE.—These figures are subject to alteration, as the books of this office for 1911-12 have not yet been closed, dated 17th May 1912.

† Bihar and Orissa.

Statement of expenditure on conservation work in the Eastern Bengal portion during 1911-12.

District.	Locality.	PARTICULARS.	Amount sanctioned.	Amount spent.	REMARKS.
			Rs.	Rs.	
Malda ...	Gaur and Pandua.	Special repairs to archæological buildings ...	8,354	3,789	Completed.
Do. ...	Malda ...	Collecting relics of the ancient monuments for the Museum.	156	30	} In progress.
Rajshahi ...	Bagha ...	Special repairs to old mosque ...	3,094	1,729	
Malda ...	Gaur and Pandua.	Annual repairs to archæological buildings ...	997	838	} In progress.
Rajshahi ...	Kusumba ...	Annual repairs to mosque ...	196	82	
Do. ...	Boalia ...	Annual repairs to embankment ..	...	1	
Mymensingh	Mymensingh	Throwing 2' berm of soil along the wall of the old Fort.	195	163	} Completed.
Dacca ...	Lalbagh ...	Opening out the underground tunnel at Lalbagh.	70	67	
Mymensingh	Kishoreganj ...	Annual repairs to mosque of Sadi at Agar-sindur.	198	194	
Dacca ...	Munshiganj ...	Repairs to remains of old Fort ...	195	151	} In progress.
Do. ...	Lalbagh ...	Annual repairs to old Fort ...	1,190	1,240	
Do. ...	Do. ...	Annual repairs to Bibi Peri's Tomb ...	61	46	
Chittagong ...	Fatehpur ...	Providing thatched roof over the Alwal Mosque	773	75	In progress.
		Total ...		8,405	

Statement of expenditure on conservation work in the First Circle, Central Provinces, during 1911-19.

Serial No.	District.	Locality.	NAME OF WORK.	Amount sanctioned.	Amount spent.	REMARKS.
				Rs.	Rs.	
1	Balaghat	Baihar ...	Certain improvements to the ancient temples at Baihar.	200	189	Work completed.
2	Chanda ...	Chanda ...	Rebuilding a portion of the fort wall near Vithoba Khirkee in Chanda City.	913	911	Ditto.
3	Do.	Ballarpur ...	Special repairs to Ballarpur Fort in the Chanda district.	2,203	2,183	Ditto.
4	Do.	Markanda...	Certain improvements to the Markanda and Dasavatar temples at Markanda in the Chanda district.	1,249	551	Work is in progress.
5	Do.	Deotak ...	Erecting a corrugated iron roof over the Asoka slab inscription at Deotak in the Chanda district.	150	1	Ditto.
6	Amraoti	Chikalda ...	Certain restorations to the buildings in the Gawilgarh Fort at Chikalda.	3,594	2,272	Work has been concentrated on the big masjid and is in progress. A fresh estimate for further restorations during the year will be submitted shortly.
7	Akola ...	Balapur ...	Certain improvement to the old fort buildings at Balapur.	1,162	990	Work is in progress.

NOTE.—Total amount spent in First Circle is Rs. 7,037. —J. F. B.

Statement of expenditure on conservation work in the Second Circle, Central Provinces, during 1911-12.

District.	Locality.	PARTICULARS OF WORK.	Amount sanctioned.	Amount spent.	REMARKS.
			Rs.	Rs.	
1. Nimar	Nimbola ...	Repairing the stone pitching protection to Colonel Frazer's tomb at Nimbola.	200	199	Work completed on the 31st March 1912. The portion of the pitching washed away during the rains was rebuilt, and the toe of the pitching was protected by throwing bags full of concrete.

Statement of expenditure on conservation work in the Second Circle, Central Provinces, during 1911-12.

District.	Locality.	PARTICULARS OF WORK.	Amount sanctioned.	Amount spent.	REMARKS.
2. Nimar	Asirgarh ...	Constructing niches for the protection of the inscription in Asirgarh Fort.	Rs. 67	Rs. 68	Work completed on the 31st March 1912. The inscriptions at the gate of the Asirgarh Fort were protected by constructing coarse rubble masonry arched niches over the inscriptions and cleaning the drains in front.
3. Do.	Burhanpur	Certain repairs to Raja's Chattri at Burhanpur.	925 (Estimate not sanctioned.)	54	Work in progress. Rupees 54-7-6 was paid for land compensation. The balance of Rs. 871 is required for repairs during 1912-13.
4. Jubbulpore.	Panagar ...	Repairs to platform of Vishnu Varaha image of Panagar.	116	111	Work completed on the 31st March 1912. The following works were carried out :— (1) Dismantling of south walls and the bulged portion of the west wall. (2) Rebuilding the dismantled portion with stone-in-lime masonry. (3) Petty repairs to the north and east walls and steps.
5. Do.	Bheraghat	Collecting the missing portion of images at Bheraghat and fixing them to their respective places.	600	380	The following work was in progress during the year, but not completed by the 31st March 1912 :— Gathering the broken and scattered parts of the images in the Chhhausath Jogini temple and resetting them up in their proper places.
6. Do.	Tegowa ...	Special repairs to Kankali Devi's temple at Tegowa.	804	450	The work was in progress, but not completed on the 31st March 1912. Some of the dismantling and rebuilding in stone-in-cement including cornice was done, also a portion of the dismantling and rebuilding of the main wall and porch with flag flooring and coarsed rubble-in-lime in dwarf wall of the platform all round the temple. The flag flooring on 4½ inches concrete on platform and steps was completed and cracks and joints of walls and roof covering of porch filled with cement to render them watertight.
7. Saugor	Saugor ...	Weeding out all vegetation and destroying the roots of trees in the masonry of Rahatgarh Fort in Saugor.	200	200	Work completed on the 31st March 1912. The following works were carried out during the year :— The roots of trees that had grown up on the masonry have been destroyed and 30 feet round the outside of the fort buildings cleared.

Statement of expenditure on conservation work in the Second Circle, Central Provinces, during 1911-12.

District.	Locality.	PARTICULARS OF WORK.	Amount sanctioned.	Amount spent.	REMARKS.
			Rs.	Rs.	
8. Raipur	Sirpur ...	Special repairs to old brick temple at Sirpur.	7,508	1,207	The work was completed by the 31st March 1912. All the rank vegetation including some of the trees which had taken deep roots was removed from the masonry, trees from the compound were cut off and removed and the site all round was cleared. 2. All cracks, crevices and joints on the outer face of the building and on the roof on the tower were filled up with brick coloured cement mortar so as to prevent any further growth of vegetation. 3. The whole of the south-west angle of the building was rebuilt including the retaining walls supporting the tower and both sides of the large triangular opening above the sanctum were faced up with new brick-work. The decayed slabs over the front doorway were replaced and all the lintels, jambs and profusely carved stone work near the front entrance were thoroughly cleared. 4. A number of carved pillars and decayed sculptures lying scattered all over the place were carefully collected and arranged on a new platform with cement concrete floor constructed over the temple.
9. Bilaspur.	Pali ...	Special repairs to Mahadeo temple at Pali.	3,166	295	The work was completed by the 31st March 1912. The revetment walls of the platform were completed with pointing cement; plastering of both the domes and general repairs to pointing were executed. All vegetation was removed from the masonry work and the 20 feet wide space all round the platform was cleared including the large mound of earth.
10. Do.	Arbhar ...	Providing a suitable railing in the compound of Arbhar temple.	550	436	The work remained unfinished on the 1st April 1912. Railings were received during March 1912; fixing will be completed during the year 1912-13 by the end of May.

NOTE.—The total expenditure for Circle II is Rs. 3,400.—J. F. B.
Total expenditure for the Central Provinces is Rs. 1,497.—J. F. B.

Statement of expenditure on conservation work in Assam during 1911-12.

District.	Locality.	NAME OF BUILDING AND NATURE OF WORK.		Amount sanctioned	Amount spent.	REMARKS.
		Name.	Details of work done.			
Khasi and Jaintia Hills.	Shillong ...	Manipur memorial ...	Annual repairs were done, i.e., the monument was cleaned, jungle cleared and approach road repaired.	Rs. 10	Rs. 10	Completed.
	Cherrapunjee	Scot's monument ...	Annual repairs were done, i.e., cement plaster was repaired and jungle cleared.	10	10	Ditto.
	Nongkhlow ...	Monument to the memory of Lieutenants Beading, Field and Burlton.	Annual repairs were done, i.e., the monument was cleaned, jungle cleared and approach road repaired.	15	15	Ditto.
Goalpara ...	Dhubri ...	(1) Monument over the grave of Mr. G. R. Geal. (2) Monument over the grave of Mr. R. B. Dunn. (3) Monument over the grave of Mr. E. W. George.	Annual repairs, washing with soap and slate painting rail-posts.	10	10	Ditto.
	Goalpara ...	Tomb of Lieutenant Cresswell and 3 other tombs.	Annual repairs— (1) Repairs to cement plaster. (2) Repairs to sand plaster. (3) White painting the gate and repairs. (4) Clearing compound. (5) Repairs to bamboo fence. (6) Repairs to approach road. (7) Clearing and repairing inscription.	20	20	Ditto.
	Ditto ...	Monument over the grave of Mr. B. J. Stow.	Annual repairs— (1) Cement painting. (2) Clearing marble stone. (3) Dressing earth.	4	4	Ditto.
	Jogighopa ...	Ancient tombs ...	(1) Repairs to cement plaster ... (2) Repairs to bamboo fencing. (3) Jungle clearing. (4) Fitting poles, etc.	25	25	Ditto.
	Mile 42, Assam Trunk Road, west of Gauhati.	Duargarila rock inscription at the foot of the Kamakhya Hill.	Original work providing fencing round the rock inscription of Kamakhya Hill.	26	26	Ditto.
Darrang ...	Tezpur ...	Ruins of temple on the Bamani Hill.	Jungle cleared round the ruins ...	40	35	Ditto.
	Do. ...	Tombs of Captain Charles Shepherd Reynold in Tezpur cemetery.	The brick work, sand and cement plaster of the grave being in a dilapidated condition have been repaired.	107	104	Ditto.
	Bishnath ...	Tombs— (1) Grave of Thomas Lee Kennedy (Lieutenant). (2) Grave of Lewis Vansandow (Lieutenant).	(1) Jungle cleared (2) Gate and posts painted. (3) Wire fencing repaired.	24	12	Ditto.

Statement of expenditure on conservation work in Assam during 1911-12—concluded.

District.	Locality.	NAME OF BUILDING AND NATURE OF WORK.		Amount sanctioned.	Amount spent.	REMARKS.
		Name.	Details of work done.			
Sibsagar ...	Sibsagar ...	Bunghur ruins ...	Providing wire fencing round the ruins.	Rs. 270	Rs. 264	Completed.
	Sibsagar sub-division.	Monuments and antiquities.	Ordinary maintenance ...	461	470	Ditto.
Manipur ...	Manipur ...	Quinton memorial ...	Reguilding the inscription ...	42	30	Imperial Civil repairs.
	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Annual repairs ...	20	18	
	Ditto ...	Durbar hall, coronation room, citadel wall, Nauchghur and Jubaraj's temple.	Ditto ...	300	341	Provincial repairs.
	Langthahal ...	Memorials to Dr. Brown, Mr. Health, Captain Gordon.	Ditto ...	30	25	Ditto.
	Mayangkhang	Graves of Messrs. Malville and O'Brien.	Ditto ...	70	68	Ditto.
Naga Hills ...	Khonoma ...	Memorial to Mr. Damont and Major Cock.	Ditto ...	85	44	Ditto.
	Sochima ...	Memorial to Lieut. Forbes.				
Sibsagar ...	Dimapur ...	Dimapur ruins ...	Ditto ...	400	491	

NOTE.—Total amount of expenditure in Assam Circle is Rs. 2,022.

J. F. B.

APPENDIX C.

List of drawings finished during 1911-12.

84. Ground plan of Vetul Deul, Bhubanesvar, Puri district.
85. Ditto of Meghesvara temple, ditto.
86. Upper story plan of Meghesvara temple, ditto.
87. Ground plan of Gauri temple, ditto.
88. Ditto of Muktesvara temple, ditto.
89. Ditto of Maitresvara temple, ditto.
90. Ditto of Singaraj temple, ditto.
91. Ditto of Chitrakarani temple, ditto.
92. Ditto of Parasuramesvara temple, ditto.
93. Ditto of Ananta Vasudeva temple, ditto.
94. Ditto of Lakshmi temple, ditto.
95. Ditto of Rajarani temple, ditto.
96. Ditto of Yamesvara temple, ditto.
97. Ditto of Bhaskaresvara temple, ditto.

List of drawings plotted during field season, 1911-12.

93. General plan of excavation at Basarh.
99. Section on A. B.
100. Section on C. D.
- 101 } Detail plans of excavations at Basarh.
- 111 }

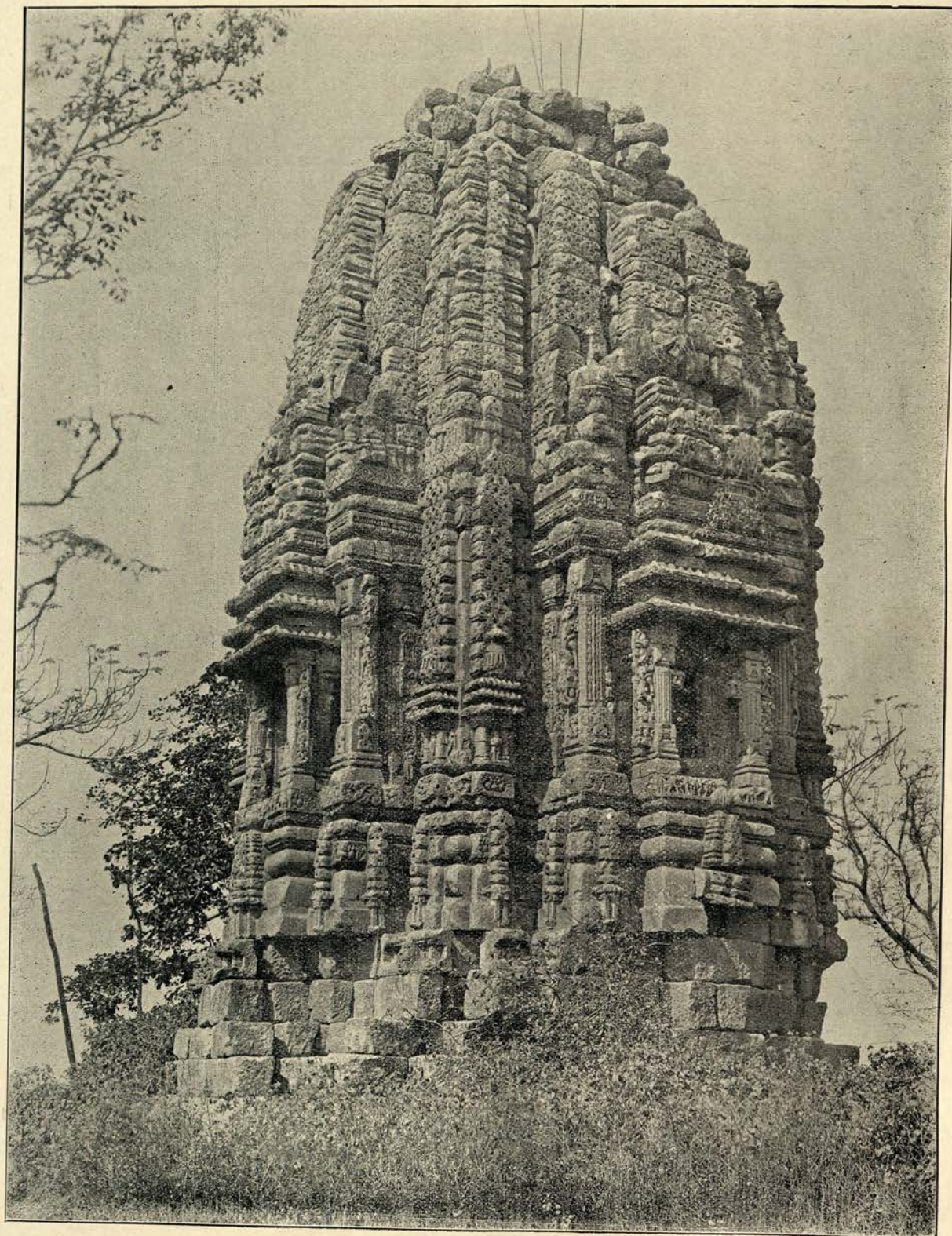
APPENDIX D.

List of Photographs taken in 1911-12.

Serial No.	District.	Locality.	SUBJECT.
<i>Bengal, Bihar and Assam.</i>			
762	Burdwan ...	Burdwan ...	Shed over tombs of Sher Afgan Khan and Nawab Kutubuddin.
763	Birbhum ...	Suri ...	Temple of Damodar at Sonaton repaired.
764	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Ditto, detail of front.
765	Dacca ...	Dacca ...	Barakatra gateway, interior view from north-east.
766	Do. ...	Do. ...	Barakatra gateway, exterior from south.
767	Do. ...	Do. ...	Chotakatra, south view, east half.
768	Do. ...	Do. ...	Ditto west half.
769	Mymensingh ...	Agarsindur ...	Sadi mosque.
770	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Mosque of Aurangzeb.
771	Ditto ...	Gurai ...	Gurai mosque from north-east.
772	Chittagong ...	Fathepur ...	Alawal mosque from north-east after conservation.
773	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Alawal mosque from east after conservation.
774	Sylhet ...	Sylhet ...	Shah Jala's Durgah from east.
775	Sibsagar ...	Sitsagar ...	Bishnudole temple.
776	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Sibdole temple.
777	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Durgadole temple.
778	Ditto ...	Gaurisagar ...	Sibdole temple.
779	Ditto ...	Jaisagar ...	Bishnudole temple
780	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Sibdole temple.
781	Ditto ...	Near Jaisagar	Ranghur pavilion.
782	Ditto ...	Nigriring ...	Sibdole temple.
783	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto details.
784	Rajshahi ...	Bagha ...	Bagha mosque from south-east.
785	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Ditto interior.
786	Ditto ...	Kusumbha ...	Kusumbha mosque from south-east.
787	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto zanana platform.
788	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Ditto central mihrab.
789	Malda ...	Gour ...	Baradwari mosque, east gate after conservation.
790	Do. ...	Do. ...	Ditto view of cloister.
791	Do. ...	Do. ...	Dakhil darwaza, south view.
792	Do. ...	Do. ...	Firoz Minar, after conservation.
793	Do. ...	Do. ...	Qadam Rasul, from south-east.
794	Do. ...	Do. ...	Lattan masjid, interior view.
795	Do. ...	Do. ...	Gunmant mosque, interior view.
796	Do. ...	Do. ...	Ditto another view.
797	Do. ...	Sadullapur (near Malda).	Juma mosque of Akhi Sirajuddin.
798	Do. ...	Panduah ...	Nur Kutab Alam mosque.
799	Do. ...	Ditto ...	Shrine of Makdum Shah Jalal.
800	Do. ...	Ditto ...	Eklakhi tomb.
801	Do. ...	Ditto ...	North-east corner of cloister wall, Adina masjid.
802	Do. ...	Ditto ...	General view of Adina masjid, west side.
803 } to } 814 }	Muzaffarpur ...	Basarh ...	Views of excavated pits.
815 } to } 823 }	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Terracotta figures and potteries.
*824 } to } 941 }	Ditto ...	Do. ...	Clay seals found at excavation.
<i>Central Provinces.</i>			
187C	Jubbulpore ...	Garha ...	General view of Panchmatha temple.
188C	Ditto ...	Tewar ...	Statue in the village.
189C	Ditto ...	Panagah ...	Statue of Vishnu Varaha.
189Ca	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	Stone platform of Vishnu Varaha.

APPENDIX D—concluded.

Serial No.	District.	Locality.	SUBJECT.
<i>Central Provinces—concluded.</i>			
190C	Damoh	Bansipur	Dam at Bansipur,
191C	Drug	Deo Baloda	Mahadeo temple.
192C	Do.	Ditto	Ditto doorway.
193C	Do.	Ditto	Ditto details of pillar.
194C	Chanda	Chanda	North gate of the Fort (Achalesvara gate).
195C	Do.	Do.	East gate ditto ditto.
196C	Do.	Do.	Mahadeo temple in Fort.
197C	Do.	Do.	Ditto another view.
198C	Jubbulpore	Burgaon	Temple of Somnath.
199C	Ditto	Ditto	A ruined temple.
200C	Damoh	Narsingarh	Juma Masjid, front view.
201C	Do.	Ditto	Ditto, back view.
202C	Do.	Ditto	Fort, river side view.
203C	Do.	Rajnagar	A bit of Fort wall and bastion.
204C	Jubbulpore	Majholi	Vishnu Varaha temple, south-east
205C	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto ditto, some sculpture on the south wall.
206C	Ditto	Tegowa	Kankali Devi temple, front view.
207C	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto, Ananta Sayya slab.
208C	Ditto	Ditto	Durga Devi temple, front view.
209C	Narsingpur	Chowgaon	Temple of Muralidhar in the village.
210C	Ditto	Chowragarh	A ruined temple in the Fort, close view.
211C	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto, another front view.
212C	Nimar	Mandhata	Columns of Siddhnath temple.
213C	Do.	Ditto	Ditto, eastern side.
214C	Do.	Ditto	Chandra Suryya gate.
215C	Do.	Burhanpur	General view of the Fort, river side.
216C	Do.	Ditto	Ditto, continuation.
217C	Akola	Balarpur	Ditto, north side.
218C	Do.	Ditto	Ditto, continuation.
219C	Do.	Ditto	Gateway of the fort.
220C	Do.	Ditto	Chhatri.
221C	Amraoti	Lassur	Anandeswar temple, interior.
222C	Ditto	Do.	Ditto, general view.
223C	Ditto	Do.	Ditto, some details of the front.
224C	Ditto	Do.	Ditto, another.
225C	Ditto	Chikalda	First gateway of inner fort (Bara Darwaza).
226C	Ditto	Ditto	Chota masjid in the Fort, front view.
227C	Ditto	Ditto	Juma masjid, ditto.
228C	Ditto	Ditto	Distant view of the Fort.
229C	Chhindwara	Nilkanthi	Inscribed stone slab near the temple.
230C	Ditto	Ditto	Main temple (ruined).
231C	Raipur	Sirpur	Lakshmana temple, conserved, front view.
232C	Do.	Do.	Ditto, another view.
233C	Do.	Do.	Ditto, ditto.
234C	Bilaspur	Pali	Mahadeo temple, interior, conserved.
235C	Ditto	Do.	Ditto, view from south.
236C	Ditto	Do.	Ditto, ditto west.
237C	Ditto	Ratanpur	Gatehouse at the Fort.
238C	Ditto	Ditto	A sculptured bridge near Ratanpur village.
239C	Mandla	Kukkurmth...	Temple of Ranmuktesvar, south-western view.
240C	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto, south view.
241C	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto, south-east view.
242C	Ditto	Ditto	Statue of Jain Tirthankara in front of the temple.
243C	Ditto	Ditto	Closer view of the details.



RANMUKTĒSVARA TEMPLE.

Kukkurmath, Dindori Tahsil,
Mandla District,
Central Provinces.

PART II.

CHAPTER I.

NOTES ON PLACES VISITED IN 1911-1912.

BENGAL.

I.—BIRBHUM DISTRICT.

SURI.—*The Temple of Damodar.*—This has been entirely renovated. I had not the advantage of seeing the place before conservation work was commenced, but everything appears to have been very well done. I think it is a pity that the structure should have been coloured pink, but I was informed that it was that colour before repairs were undertaken, so perhaps the officer in charge of the work was right, at any rate it is a minor point. The *Rasmancha*, about 20 yards away on the opposite side of the road, has now entirely disappeared. It fell down before repairs were commenced on the *mandir*, and all the stone has now been utilized in repairing the latter and in building a platform for it. I would recommend that a strong wire fence with iron posts fixed securely in concrete blocks below the ground level be erected round the temple to form a compound and to keep cattle and dirty people from the precincts. An iron gate with a latch should be fixed on the road side. The temple is no longer in use. Below I give a short description of the building.

2. Measuring 17 feet square the temple stands on a platform 23 feet square and about 18 inches high (this latter has been entirely rebuilt). All the decoration is on the front face, both the sides and the back being quite plain plastered walls except for a shallow pilaster on both sides of all four corners of the building.

3. On the front is an arcade of three arches giving access to a verandah. The centre arch of the arcade measures six feet to the apex, the other two being six inches lower. These arches spring from two small highly decorated octagonal columns with capitals and bases, and two similar pilasters at either end. The whole front is covered with a mass of carving, most of which is representations of Hindu gods and goddesses. The porch or verandah, which has a curved vaulting, is not a separate addition, but is under the same roof as the rest of the temple. The temple is roofed with the Bengali type of dome cut off flat on the top, and on which stands a small square erection about six feet square and two feet high with a dome of the same style as the larger one. The cornice of the larger or lower dome is supported on numbers of small carved brackets. There is only one entrance, six feet high to the apex and two feet wide, to the shrine and is set in the wall opposite the two centre arches of the arcade. It is supported on either side by two shallow niches and the whole wall is covered with carved rosettes. The measurement from the outside of the arcading to inside of temple is only five feet wide.

4. Inside, four octagonal pilasters with octagonal bases and square capitals form a square and support four pointed arches, from the corners spring pendentives, decorated with dentil ornaments, which carry a small circular dome (from the floor to the dome is approximately 20 feet). A small niche, one foot six inches deep, is set in the back wall opposite to the entrance. The two sides of the interior are extended three feet beyond the square domed portion and form as it were two transepts. They are carried a little above the side arches of the square and are then ceiled by corbelling out bricks.

5. The front of the temple and the entrance wall is built of stone, the other three sides, the dome and the interior are of brick plastered.

II.—BURDWAN DISTRICT.

6. BURDWAN—*Tombs of Sher Afgan and Kutub-ud-din and the Dargah of Bahram Sakka.*—Repairs have been carried out on the latter and it is now in good condition. The retaining wall on the tank side has been rebuilt; it is of brick and is not particularly beautiful, but serves its purpose. Over the two tombs, which are quite simple stone graves with head stones, an extremely ugly canopy has been erected. In my opinion an iron railing would have sufficed to protect these tombs and the brick and plaster erection should never have been sanctioned. However, it is there now. An estimate for Rs. 2,747 has been received in this office with the Superintending Engineer, South-Western Circle's letter No. 6847, dated 18th October 1911. It has been framed by the District Engineer, Burdwan. Several of the items contained in it are hardly archæological subjects, and I think they should be undertaken by the local authorities if they are really considered necessary. I have written a conservation note which contains all the works, which I, as the Archæological Adviser to the Government, can recommend.

III.—CHITTAGONG DISTRICT.

7. CHITTAGONG—*Alawal Khan's Mosque, Fatehpur.*—An entirely new thatched roof has been erected over the mosque, and other small repairs have been executed. The structure is now in excellent repair.

IV.—DACCA DISTRICT.

8. DACCA—*Lalbagh Fort.*—The annual conservation work here has been well carried out. Several small repairs have been done since my last visit, such as underpinning and filling cracks, etc. Smeared mortar, which I noticed last year, has been removed, as has also the green paint from the copper dome of Bibi Peri's tomb. The under-ground tunnel, which I mentioned in the Annual Report for 1910-11, has come to nothing, that is to say, that it cannot be traced further than to the middle of the fort. Some underground vaults have lately been excavated. They are situated under the mound of earth, which runs along the south wall and on which the modern police barracks stand. These vaults are entered on the north side by a hole cut in the back wall of a semi-circular, semi-domed structure, which till lately was concealed under the earthwork. The floor level of the vaults is only some three or four feet below the ground level, the vaults do not appear to be very extensive. It seems a great pity that the police barracks should be situated here; the necessary huts, latrines and rubbish heaps do not add to the picturesqueness of the fort. I found that people are in the habit of sticking their fuel to the walls of the south east gateway; this should not be allowed.

9. *The Bara Khatra.*—This must at one time have been a fine structure, but it is now so shut in by the bazar that it is difficult to get a good view of it. It is in private hands and is put to every imaginable use—from a stable, which is under what was once a fine archway, to a warehouse for storing cotton. The place is in fair repair, but is very dirty and much jungle should be eradicated. The owner should be asked to have this latter done. It has been cut at some-time or other, but the roots ought to be entirely got out. I would recommend that the work be done under the advice and superintendence of the Public Works Department.

10. *The Chota Khatra* is an old structure built in Shaista Khan's time, but so altered and enlarged by the Portuguese, that very little of the old design is now apparent. It is in good repair, but a small tomb in the same compound should have vegetation removed from it.

11. *Colombo Sahib's Tomb* has lately had the tile jaffry work in the windows repaired and is now in good condition. When I saw it the floor only needed cleaning up.

V.—JESSORE DISTRICT.

12. **MUHAMMADPUR.**—It having been brought to my notice by Professor Jogindra Nath Samaddar that the ancient remains here are going to decay, I paid a visit of inspection in March and took the following notes. Several of the places mentioned by Westland in his book "Reports on the Jessore District" have entirely disappeared or are lost in the jungle.

13. *Temple of Ram Chandra Thakur* was built by the Nattore Raja, after Sitaram's time, and is therefore more modern than most of the buildings here. It is not a particularly interesting structure. The temple itself forms the right or west wing of a quadraagle, and contains idols taken from the temples of Shiva at Bororia and Krishna at Khanhaynagar. On the east side is the cutcherry, the south is used for cooking and on the north is the main entrance. The building is in fair repair and: where conservation work is needed, it should be done by the owner. The outside is quite plain except on the entrance side. The gateway consists of one large gate, on either side of which is an elephant's head with a figure seated upon it; the latter has lost its head. Two small arches are on either side of the entrance. It is roofed with a Bengali curved roof. On the inside are arcades—five arches on each side, except on the north, which has two arches on either side of the main entrance. The structure is built entirely of brick plastered and there is some plaster decoration, but much has crumbled off. The columns of the arcades are not in good condition.

14. *The Dolmancha* in front of the above mentioned is in use. Jungle has lately been cut around it, but some is growing on the roofs. It is quite a small square structure built on two platforms, one on the top of the other. It is supported on four small moulded columns with pinched waists, from which spring pointed arches which carry a tall Bengali roof.

15. *The Lion Gate* has practically entirely gone; no architectural features remain, only a small amount of brickwork being left. The archway mentioned by Westland has quite disappeared.

16. *The Dasamahāvidya or Dasabhoja Temple* is a modern plain building built on an old foundation and has a corrugated iron verandah in front. On the remains of the old temple are some good carved bricks depicting men riding horses and various human scenes; however there is very little of this remaining. The temple is in use and appears to be looked after.

17. *Shiva Manda (near the above)* is a complete ruin. It is so covered with jungle that if the latter were removed, the remains would probably collapse. The front was originally faced with carved bricks.

18. *The Lukshmi Narayana Temple* is in use. It is a small two-storied octagonal structure and in fair preservation, though some jungle is commencing to grow on it and there are one or two bad cracks. This temple is supposed to be the root of all Sitaram's prosperity. It can be preserved without difficulty. It is of no architectural interest, but I think it should be preserved on account of its historical associations.

19. *The Toshakhana* must at one time have been a fairly large building, but now only two small Bengali vaulted chambers remain. Thick jungle grows all over and around it; in my opinion the place is past repair.

20. *Sitarām's House* is overgrown with jungle and any attempt to remove it would probably cause its collapse. No architectural features remain.

21. *Sitarām's Cutcherry and Jail* to all intents and purposes no longer exist.

22. *Temple of Krishna at Khanhaynagar.*—This building, which is described by Westland, is still standing, but large trees are growing out of it. An attempt should be made to preserve it. All jungle will first have to be removed roots and all; in places dismantling and rebuilding will have to be undertaken. In most cases the roots appear to grow vertically downwards and cause cracks; when these roots are eradicated the cracks must be joined together with brickwork, the bricks being the same size as the existing ones. No new plastering should be done and mortar should not be smeared or dropped about. Jungle should be cleared away for some distance around the temple. The building was originally of brick plastered except on the front which has carved facing bricks. It is not suggested that the temple shall be restored, only preserved.

23. *The Shiva Temple at Bororia* is a square structure and had a Bengali dome, which has now fallen. It is quite plain inside. There are entrances

on the north and east sides, which sides are decorated with carved bricks, the other two being plain. Jungle is growing luxuriantly and has taken such a hold on the building that, in my opinion, it is of no use attempting conservation work.

VI.—MALDA DISTRICT.

24. GAUR AND PANDUA NEAR MALDA.—It is with much pleasure that I have to report that all the monuments under the care of the Public Works Department are extremely well cared for. The Subdivisional Officer, Public Works Department, Abid Ali Khan, takes a real interest in the buildings under his charge, and he is much to be congratulated on the good condition of the monuments and the neat appearance of their compounds. I have written a long Conservation Note on all these monuments, so it will serve no useful purpose to reiterate it all again here. But it may be stated that I have recommended that the cloisters at the *Adinah mosque* shall be put into a safe condition. They are much ruined at present and portions appear to be on the point of collapse; but I think they should be repaired, that the character of the mosque and its surroundings may be retained as far as possible. I have also recommended that the following shall be brought on to the Public Works Department books and be repaired—(i) *Chamkhin* or *Chika mosque*, (ii) *Chamkatti mosque*, (iii) *Gunmant mosque*, and that all the other monuments, which have been declared protected, shall have the jungle removed from them and their surroundings.

VII.—MURSHIDABAD DISTRICT.

25. KHARAU.—Having learned that the small brick mosque was in need of repairs, I made a visit of inspection in January. It was declared a protected monument under the Act in 1905, and in the same year was repaired at the cost of Rs. 486. Since then it has been left to itself and is again much covered with jungle. When repairs were done before the jungle was not entirely eradicated and has sprouted again from the old roots. I have prepared a Conservation Note recommending various repairs to the building, and I would suggest that when the structure is again in good condition, it should be taken on to the Public Works Department books and that a sum be set aside annually for the removal of vegetation and other minor necessities.

VIII.—RAJSHAHI DISTRICT.

26. BAGHA, *Mosque at.*—I paid a visit to this mosque to inspect the repairs, which have lately been finished. The place is now in a thoroughly good state of repair and all the conservation work has been very well executed. The principal work has been on the east front, where nearly half the brick facing had fallen off. The bricks have now been collected and reset in their proper positions. Of course, many of the old facing bricks are still missing; in such cases where they could not be found the wall has been left plain, and no attempt has been made to do restoration. The interior has been cleared out, all the rubbish from the domes, which had fallen, having been removed. The loose brick work on the top of the walls has been cemented and is now firm. The cement should have been coloured with brick dust as it now looks as if there had been a snow storm and is rather staring, but no doubt it will shortly tone down.

27. KUSUMBHA, *Mosque at.*—A great portion of the stone facing on the east side had fallen and has now been refixed. No mortar was used in the old work, but now-a-days it is unavoidable. However, it should not be permitted to shew as it does on this mosque; that which has squeezed out between the joints has been neatly smeared down and now forms whitish gray lines, sometimes over an inch wide, on the face of the dark granite. The domes, which still stand, have been replastered and look rather pink at present. All the rubbish caused by the fallen domes has been removed and the gallery in the north-west corner has been rebuilt. The mosque is now in a safe condition, and it only remains to put a thick coating of cement on the broken edges of the domes to prevent the bricks from falling out. This was

recommended by Mr. Longhurst in his Conservation Note of January 1903, but only surkee has been used and is already crumbling and blowing away in dust. A very *kuchla* brick and plaster wall has been erected round the mosque; one of the gate posts has already partly fallen and all the gates at the three entrances are off their hinges. I have drawn the attention of the Executive Engineer to the above remarks.

28. Since the Government has repaired the mosque, the people have taken it into use again, though it was not used in its ruined state. I do not think this should be permitted. The Public Works Department chaukidar in charge of the place is very lazy and does nothing. He allows Hindus to put vermilion daubs about and to build fires in the compound.

BIHAR AND ORISSA.

IX.—CHAMPARAN DISTRICT.

29. KESARIA, *Buddhist stupa near*.—By quoting my letter No. 43A.S., dated 19th February 1912, to the Secretary to the Government of Bengal, General Department, I can, I think, best explain the observations and the recommendations made by me after inspecting the stupa.

30. With reference to the correspondence resting with this office letter No. 740, dated the 22nd December 1911, I have the honour to state as follows:—On comparing the Public Works Department estimate with the proposals made by the Superintendent, Archaeological Survey, Eastern Circle, in his Conservation Note of 16th January 1911, I found that it far exceeded the suggestions made by him and was practically an estimate drawn up for rebuilding the stupa, and that the enormous sum of Rs. 18,034 was involved. I therefore determined to visit the monument and did so on February 1st. I found that the stupa really is in a very bad state of repair: bricks are falling from the top, which overhangs, I should say, in some places as much as three or four feet, and is now instead of being cone-shaped more the shape of a young toadstool. The Executive Engineer, who accompanied me to the site, gave it as his opinion that the only way to permanently preserve the monument from falling down is to practically re-build it. I entirely agree with him. Next wet weather huge lumps of brickwork, which are preparing to fall, will certainly come down if something is not done to prevent such an occurrence. But I hesitate to sanction the re-building for two reasons, viz.—(i) the large outlay and (ii) that we have at present no knowledge what this portion of the stupa was like originally.

31. To arrest the destruction of this monument for a time at any rate, I would, however, recommend the following repairs:—

- (i) A buttress on the north side about ten feet wide to support the overhanging portion, to be built of small country bricks with neat joints and no mortar smearing.
- (ii) Another buttress about 15 feet wide on the right hand side of the sadhu's cave also to hold up some projecting brick-work. Both these buttresses will be about 12 feet high.
- (iii) The sadhu's cave to be filled in with mud and faced roughly with brick-work and other small holes to be filled in in a similar manner.
- (iv) The crack on the south side, down which water is making a channel, should be filled in, and a shallow buttress built against it to act as a sort of bonding between the two sides of the crack, and also to make a better surface that water will not again get in.
- (v) It is not certain whether the chamber and passage on the top is part of the original construction of the stupa, but it should be restored sufficiently to prevent water getting in. The whole top ought to be made sound and water-tight, so that water will not get into the structure and tend to make channels and thus split it.

32. These few items should not cost much, and I beg to recommend that the Public Works Department be asked to prepare another estimate embodying these suggestions. Rupees 1,500 will probably have to be included in the estimate if one of the owners, Mir Badr-ud-din, still objects to entering into an agreement with Government and has to be bought out.

33. I am returning herewith the estimate and plan sent with your letter No. 4001, dated the 8th November 1911.

X.—PURI DISTRICT.

34. KONARAK, *Black Pagoda*.—Estimates have been prepared for various works to be done at the temple itself and to the buildings in the same compound. In July 1910 Mr. Longhurst countersigned an estimate for fixing a lightning conductor to the Jagamohan. The temple has been struck once, but fortunately little damage was done that time. However, as the occurrence may happen again at any moment and irreparable damage may be done, I would recommend that this work be proceeded with as soon as possible. It is proposed to erect a shed to contain all the sculptures, which are scattered about, the better ones being placed inside and those of less importance being set up in the compound of the shed. I have recommended in a Conservation Note that the Navagraha stone, which is at present lying about $\frac{1}{3}$ rd mile from the temple, be built into the side of the stone table on which sculptures will be displayed, inside the sculpture shed. I think that the north-east corner of the temple compound will be the best position for the erection of the new sculpture shed if no buildings are found beneath the sand. The shed should be as far away from all the ancient buildings as possible. An estimate for Rs. 4,121 was countersigned by my predecessor, Mr. Longhurst, for erecting the Navagraha stone in its original position. It was proposed to erect columns and do various works in connection with it. In consultation with Dr. Vogel, who was then officiating Director-General of Archæology in India, and who inspected the temple with me, it was decided that the estimate ought to be recalled and that the stone should be set in the position above referred to. An estimate has been countersigned by this office amounting to Rs. 6,460 for general repairs to the main temple and minor buildings, such as the *Maya Devi temple*. It contained a sum for erecting a shelter over the *vedi*, which is, in my opinion, unnecessary, as the sculptures on its sides are well protected from the weather and there is a good drain to take water away from the room. I have therefore omitted this item from the estimate. The plantation of Cassurina trees should be extended to the south-east side; on the other sides where these trees have been planted, an excellent screen from sand storms is afforded. I would suggest that the sand at the south-east corner be removed to discover if there are any statues or buildings buried beneath it.

35. THE UDAYAGIRI AND KHANDAGIRI CAVES.—In a Conservation Note, dated January 1912, I have drawn attention to works that I consider necessary in the future. Nothing worthy of special note has been done during the year under review. Some of the piers, which were erected some years ago as supports, etc., are mere eyesores and do not do the work they were intended for. Others constructed later are built in quite the correct style for this kind of work; good examples are afforded by the *Hathi gumpha* and the *Patalapuri gumpha*. Two piers at the *Rani gumpha* on the right at the ground level had been built two days before my inspection; they have gone back to the old style of bad workmanship, I am afraid, and should be rebuilt. A portion of sculpture has been carelessly chipped away in fixing one of them.

36. BHUBANESVAR.—No works of any magnitude have been undertaken during the year on any of the temples. Only such odd jobs as fixing wire frames and doors in windows and doorways, small masons' works, the filling of cracks and open joints and the removal of vegetation having been done. Some dismantling and rebuilding work was proceeding at the *Yamesvara Temple* on my inspection. An estimate has been prepared for dismantling and rebuilding the Jagamohan of the temple called by some the *Chitresvara* and by others the *Chitrakarini*. I am not at all certain in my own mind that this work is absolutely necessary; the estimate is therefore for the present being held in abeyance till a further report is received from the Executive Engineer. I have prepared a Conservation Note, which embodies all the works, which in my opinion, are needed at present.

XI.—SHAHABAD DISTRICT.

37. SASSARAM, *Sher Shah's Tomb*.—It having been reported that stones had fallen from the roof, an estimate has been prepared, and is now awaiting

the approval of the Government for erecting a scaffolding inside the tomb to examine the dome minutely. When I inspected the building, there did not appear to me to be any danger, only one or two facing stones having fallen from, in my opinion, natural causes, *i.e.*, the corroding of dowels or loosening of mortar. However, I think the scaffold should be erected as soon as possible to discover the cause of the fallen stones and to enable an estimate for repairs to be got out at once if anything is found to be seriously wrong. No expense should be spared in preserving this monument, which is the finest of its kind in this part of India.

38. *Alwal Khan's Tomb*.—Since my visit sanction has been accorded to making repairs to the compound wall, removal of jungle and other minor works at this tomb.

39. *Hussain Shah's Tomb*.—Two estimates have been outstanding for several years. One provides for repairs to the old compound wall and removal of all the huts, which abut on to it and use it as their back wall. The other is framed for carrying out repairs to the wall as far as possible without removing the huts. In my opinion the former estimate should be the one to select. The present squalid surroundings take away much from the picturesqueness of this beautiful tomb. Besides it is impossible to repair the wall properly when buildings run along the outside of it and prevent work from being carried out on that side.

40 There is a small bathing tank just outside the west wall of the compound of the above tomb, which seems to me to be eminently worth cleaning out and putting into good repair. I beg to recommend that orders be given to prepare estimates for necessary works in connection with it.

XII.—SONTHAL PARGANAS DISTRICT.

41. *RAJMAHAL*.—With the lists of proposed works to be carried out in Bengal during 1912-13 from the various circles, I received the following from the Northern Circle.

42. Statement showing the grant required for repairs to archæological works in the Bhagalpur Division during 1912-13—

Head of classification.	Commissioner's Division.	Locality and particulars.	Grant required.	Number borne in the List of Ancient Monuments of Bengal, 1896.	REMARKS.
Archæological works.	Bhagalpur ...	Baradwari at Rajmahal.	Rs. 20	97	These monuments were never repaired before by the Public Works Department.
		Singhee Dalan Palace at Rajmahal.	10	98	
		Mosque on road from Rajmahal Bazar to Juma Masjid.	80	99	
		Munia Bibi's Tomb at Rajmahal.	100	102	
		Munia Bibi's Tank at Rajmahal.	125	103	
		Juma Mosque at Hadaf, Rajmahal.	250	106	
		Sundhee Nath's Temple at Hadaf, Rajmahal.	150	107	
		Residence of Shah Shuja (near Begumpore and village Godaganj).	160	109	
		Tomb of Bakht Homa (near Begumpore and village Godaganj).	25	110	
		Teliagarhi Fort ...	200	115	
		Total ...	1,120		

43. As it was quite impossible to understand what it was intended to do to these monuments, I paid a visit to Rajmahal and took the following notes in company with the local Public Works officer.

44. *Baradwari*.—There are two buildings of this name—one at Hadaf, which is, I think, as it is situated on a knoll, the one mentioned in the List of Ancient Monuments. The other is in Rajmahal, near a planter's bungalow, some 300 yards above the subdivisional courts. The former is very ruinous, the only real feature standing being a stone column, which supports a portion of vaulting. Several small chambers remain, but they are all very much filled in with rubbish, and are past repair. Jungle and large trees are growing luxuriantly. The other is also ruined by jungle. It is a small square structure, the dome of which has collapsed, and is now a heap of rubbish inside the building. Jungle might be cut, but it is practically impossible to eradicate all the roots.

45. *Singhee Dalan Palace*.—A part is used by the East Indian Railway Company for the storage of books and papers. Four window openings on the river side have been blocked up as have also two doorways on the front and a modern door has been put into an opening on this side. An archway has been closed up at the left end of the building and another between the centre portion of the building, and the room on the left has been also blocked up. As this is the property of the East Indian Railway Company, in my opinion the company should be asked to do repairs and, if possible, use it no longer as a godown. The above-mentioned door and window openings ought to be re opened. The floor of the left hand chamber needs attention, and all rubbish should be cleared away, and the first doorway on the right of the main entrance should be repaired. The inside requires whitewashing in places and cooking fires should not be allowed.

46. *Mosque on the road from Rajmahal Bazar to Juma Mosque*.—I could not discover which mosque it is intended to repair, but I took notes of three mosques in the town. One is now used as a hospital and is in good repair, though I noticed that one or two small trees had commenced to take root in the building. Another mosque, situated near the corner where the Begumpur road joins the Hadaf road, is in fair repair and only neat pointing is required on the walls where the plaster has come off. This mosque is in use. The third is on the opposite side of the railway to the European cemetery. Jungle has lately been cut from the building, but the roots have not been eradicated, which should be done.

47. *Munia Bibi's Tomb* is in the custody of the Nawab of Murshidabad, who might be asked to do the following repairs under the superintendence of the Public Works Department. Remove all jungle (cutting out the roots) from the building and its surroundings, cut the bamboos, which brush against the structure, and remove the hut standing in front. The small tomb inside needs repair and the dome should be made watertight. All cracks in the brick work should be well grouted and filled. No plastering should be done.

48. *Munia Bibi's Tank* is in fair repair, but it is much silted up, and the water is very dirty. I think nothing should be done on an archæological score.

49. *Juma Mosque at Hadaf*.—In 1902 the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad agreed to meet the cost of repairs to this mosque; he might be asked to do the same again. In 1909-10 Rs. 50 was spent on this mosque by the Public Works Department, and in 1910-11 Rs. 60 was expended according to the statement of archæological expenditure, so I do not understand what authority there is for stating that no repairs have been undertaken before by the Public Works Department. All traces of vegetation should be removed from the building and from its compound. All the cracks in the domes should be filled with cement and made water-tight, water should not be allowed to percolate through the roofing into the interior.

50. *Sundi Nath's Temple at Hadaf*.—This is a very small temple on the west of the Juma Mosque. It was built by Man Singh, the builder of the Juma Mosque, for his own use. It is of no interest architecturally, but should be preserved on account of the historic relationship it holds with the mosque. It will be found, I think, extremely difficult to spend Rs. 150 on it. All that is necessary is that jungle should be removed from and around it. Cracks should be made good and the whole left in a safe condition. No plastering or restoration should be undertaken.

51. *Residence of Shah Shuja* on which it is proposed to spend Rs. 160 is practically non-existent. Only a small portion of ruined brickwork remains, though there may be vaults below, which are now filled up and cannot be seen. It is much overgrown with jungle, which might be cleared away, and possibly then something of interest may come to light.

52. *Tomb of Bakht Homa*.—There is no building here now—only a small grave tomb much covered with jungle remains. The property belongs to a Babu, who has probably sold the tomb for building or road material. The compound is surrounded by a brick wall of some architectural interest; it has collapsed in many places, and in others is much overgrown with jungle. This latter ought to be eradicated.

53. *The Teliagarhi Fort*.—In the List of Ancient Monuments it is stated to be Class III and past repairs. I have not visited it myself.

ASSAM.

III.—SIBSAGAR DISTRICT.

54. *NIGRITING, Sibdole Temple* is comparatively modern having been erected about the beginning of the 18th century. Originally an older temple stood in the village, but was partly washed away by the river Gelavil, on whose banks it used to stand. The old stone has been used in constructing steps up the small hill on which the new one stands. I visited this temple in connection with an estimate for conservation, and have issued a Conservation Note on the repairs, which I consider necessary. It is constructed with small square bricks plastered and consists of a large central shrine with an egg-shaped dome, star-shaped on plan. On each side of the dome are pinnacles or turrets and a large undecorated and barrel vaulted porch stands in front. At each angle is a smaller temple, similar to the large one, dedicated to Durga, Vishnu, Surya and Ganeshi. I have recommended a few repairs, jungle clearance and cleaning, etc.

55. *SIBSAGAR, Bishnudole Temple*.—This temple has lately been repaired and is now in good condition. It is an egg-shaped domed structure similar to that at Nigriting, but without the corner temples. It has been entirely replastered with surkee and looks very salmon coloured at present. I have written a Conservation Note on this, the *Sibdole* and the *Durgadole* all of which are on the bank of the large Sibsagar tank. The Note also includes the temples at *Jaisagar* and *Gaurisagar* a few miles away. In the Note I have made various suggestions for conservation work. A wire-fence had been erected round the *Ranghar pavilion* (near Sibsagar) a few weeks before my visit, but on inspecting it, I found that a great part of it had been loosened and the iron posts thrown down. Some of the wire appeared to have been stolen also.

56. *DIMAPUR*.—I paid a visit to the ancient monoliths here to see what further works should be undertaken for their conservation. Dr. Bloch enters into a long description of these in the Annual Report of the Director-General of Archæology in India for 1906-07, page 19 and following, so I will add no more now. I have drawn up a Conservation Note and have recommended the re-erection of a number of monoliths in group III and one each in groups I and II. There was a complaint that moss was allowed to grow on the stone; the only way to remove it is by the use of weed eradicator; the slightest touch on the stone, even with a finger, tends to rub the surface off as it is so soft.

XIV.—SYLHET DISTRICT.

57. *SYLHET, The Dargah of Shah Jalal*.—The Public Works Department officer showed me an estimate, which has been prepared, but has not yet reached this office for approval, for doing repairs to the mosque attached to the tomb and rebuilding structures, which fell down in an earthquake a few

years ago. The estimate has been prepared at the request of the Deputy Commissioner. I took a note of the following items :—

	Rs.
(i) Nahaba khana and gateway	4,401
(ii) Compound walls	3,700
(iii) Cook-shed	3,651
(iv) Reconstructing minarets on mosque	588
(v) Repairs to the Ghorighar	751
(vi) Other repairs to mosque itself	1,287
Total	<u>14,378</u>

58. When I paid a visit to this tomb, I found that it and all the buildings connected with it were in good order, with the exception of the Ghorighar or Gong-house which needs repairs to its dome and coping. A few very small repairs are needed to the mosque and gumbaz, and a certain amount of jungle is beginning to grow. I ventured to suggest that this latter should be removed by the beggars, who receive free food at the mosque, but the idea was scoffed at as not being true charity if the beggar had to work before receiving his food. The four minarets, which have fallen from the gumbaz, which is the oldest of the group of buildings, should not in my opinion be rebuilt, as there is no means of knowing what they were like previously. The Nahabat khana and gateway, which used to be one building, the cook-shed and the compound wall, all of which no longer exist, I do not recommend to be rebuilt, at any rate out of archæological funds. If it is desired to erect these buildings for the people, I think the funds should be found from another source.

59. I found a note in the report of the estimate stating that the Matwallis agree to allow the two mosques near to stand and not be pulled down or be rebuilt. As they are both protected monuments, they would be very much in the wrong if they agreed to anything else.

CENTRAL PROVINCES.

XV.—AKOLA DISTRICT.

60. BALAPUR, *The Fort* is now in very fair repair. All the items contained in the estimate for conservation, which the Public Works Department were carrying out, were not entirely finished when I made my inspection in November. No works of any size have been done, only small repairs, removal of jungle and filling cracks, etc. A portion of the roadway also has been relaid; in my opinion when it again becomes necessary to repair it, funds should be found from local sources and not be taken from the Archæological Budget. My reason for the above is that a new office for the tahsildar is being constructed within the fort, and as there must be a road up to it, it should be kept up by the road authorities. Conservation work on the fort itself will still of course come under archæological authority. I have written a Conservation Note, in which I have noticed a few small and necessary works.

61. The fort is very picturesquely situated on a small hill at the junction of the Man and Mhais rivers, and in the rains is almost entirely surrounded by water. It is very strongly and simply built, about $\frac{2}{3}$ rd being of stone and the rest of brick-work, and consists of a pentagonal fort with five large bastions built within a many sided fort with eleven bastions. The inner fort is quite intact, but four bastions, a portion of another, and some walling have disappeared from the outer. The fort is entered by a large gateway in the outer wall, and again by two other gateways into the inner fort. The first of these two last-mentioned gates leads into a small court, and the second, at right angles to it, direct into the fort. The only decoration appears on the gateways, the main walls being quite plain, except that two 9-inch courses of herring-bone brick-work run round the outer side of the inside fort, and a course of darker brick-work is occasionally introduced. The usual pointed

merlon is used here: it differs, however, from others I have seen, in that the builders, not being content with the spaces between each merlon for rifle fire, must cut diagonal holes both ways through the merlon and enable two additional men to fire, being themselves protected behind the battlements.

62. *The Chatri (near the Dāk Bungalow)*—is a very handsome little structure, and appears eminently worth conserving. It is quite a simple building constructed of stone and set on a platform on the edge of the high bank of a river. The central part, which is square, stands on twelve columns, four each side with corbel capitals; inside above, it is brought to an octagon by corner lintel stones and from this a dome springs. There are four projecting porches, one on each side; they have each two similar columns and are domed in the same manner as the larger central portion. Projecting eave stones run round the building and a blocking course or cresting stands on it. At one time there was a bridge or steps on the east side leading to the river, but this has now disappeared.

XVI.—AMRAOTI DISTRICT.

63. *CHIKALDA, Gawilgarh Fort.*—The principal repairs have been carried out at the *Bara Durwaza*, where the steps up to it have been renewed, and the battlements have been dismantled and rebuilt. The latter item has not been correctly done, the merlons having been rebuilt at least one foot shorter than their original height. Jungle has been cut (but not always eradicated or killed) in various places about the fort. All the stone and débris around the *Jama Mosque* has been collected, sorted and stacked in preparation to repairing the structure, for which an estimate should be framed in accordance with the Conservation Note, which I have written. The Conservation Note referred to contains notes on all the work that I consider should be undertaken in the near future and includes works to be done at, besides the two above-mentioned places, the *Delhi gateway* and *Chhota Masjid*.

64. The following may not be quite the subject for an annual report, but it has struck me as rather a curious coincidence, and I therefore mention it. This fort was captured by General Wellesley in November 1803, and I have learned since my visit that my grandfather, who was serving under him at the time, was at the siege, and presumably helped to bring the fort and its buildings to their present ruinous condition. In the same month 108 years afterwards I came in a very different capacity, and am now making recommendations for preserving and repairing that, which my grandfather had been at such pains to destroy.

65. *LASUR, Temple of Anandesvar (eight miles from Daryapur).*—This temple must at one time have been exceedingly handsome, and it reminds me somewhat of the *Mahadeo temple at Pali*. It is built on a platform, now nearly entirely covered with earth, which followed the irregularities in plan of the temple itself. Inside and outside it is constructed with stone. The porch is entered by a well carved doorway at present set in a mud wall as the original walling at this point has gone. The porch may be said to be square with shrines on three sides, and the entrance door on the fourth. Twelve columns standing in the shape of an octagon carry the domed roof, most of which has collapsed. Lintels are laid on the bracket capitals of the octagonal columns and form the base of the dome, the next course is a sixteen sided figure and above it becomes circular. The columns, bases and capitals are beautifully carved, as are also the doorways into the sanctums, the steps in front of the latter have well sculptured figures on them. The ceilings in front of the sanctums are magnificently carved, but are very black and can hardly be seen. Mud platforms have been built inside, and in some cases cover up the bases of the columns. The interior is in very fair repair though rather dirty.

66. On the outside the western face is in pretty good condition, as is also two-thirds of the south side and about one-third of the north. On the eastern side the facing stone work has quite collapsed, having slipped down the small hill on which the temple stands. About twenty years ago a gentleman from Murtizapur tried to repair it and built a very ugly modern stone wall, which has

also to a great extent slipped down the hill. The exterior is very elaborately decorated with a great many horizontal mouldings and carved fillets. Very little figural work appears—only one course 9 inches high of rather crude sculpture and two or three plaques.

67. This temple is quite worth preserving, and I would recommend that it be declared "a protected monument" and that the Public Works Department be asked to prepare estimates for its conservation.

XVII.—BILASPUR DISTRICT.

68. *PALI, the Mahadeo Temple.*—When I made my inspection in November, I found that all the conservation work, which has been going on for some time, was practically finished, and it only remained for the scaffolding to be removed, and for the temple to be cleaned down and for rubbish to be taken away. In my letter No. 129A.S., dated 22nd April 1912, I have drawn the attention of the Superintending Engineer, 2nd Circle, to a few additional repairs, which were not contained in the estimate and which should be carried out. The conservation work has been done in a creditable manner as a whole, and the officer in charge deserves congratulations. It is unfortunate, however, that joints on the exterior of the porch should have been allowed to show up so conspicuously; the mortar, which pressed out from the joints has been trowelled down smoothly and now shows in white stripes against the dark stone work; this I have pointed out to the Superintending Engineer together with one or two minor details. It seems a pity that the Shikara should have been cemented; if it was necessary to reface it, it seems to me that it would have looked much better had it been done in plain stone work, which would have served equally well and cost no more. However, cement was recommended by Mr. Longhurst, and the Public Works Department have followed his instructions. I had photographs taken of this temple as it stands now completed; the views were taken from the same points as were the photographs taken before conservation work was commenced.

XVIII.—CHANDA DISTRICT.

69. *BALLARPUR, the Fort.*—When I visited the fort in April 1911, conservation work had not yet been commenced, but it is since stated to have been finished as far as the last estimate is concerned.

70. *Ballalshah's Tomb* built by the Raja of that name, in many respects resembles the tombs in the group of Gond tombs near the *Achalesvara Gateway* at Chanda. A simple structure about 30 feet square, it is mounted on a platform and has three openings on each side, twelve in all with pointed heads; the centre opening on each side serves as a doorway. There is a plinth, which stops against the doorways and a moulded cornice, with brackets surmounted by a blocking course, runs round the top. The sanctum or vault in the inside is octagonal with one entrance and round it runs a passage, which is roofed with a flat roof. The walls of the vault are carried up above this roof and form a central octagonal tower, pierced by pointed arched openings on each face. Round the tower runs a cornice with supporting brackets and above springs on eight-sided dome. At about the level of the passage roof is an inner or lower dome which serves as a ceiling to the sanctum. This building seems to me to be quite worthy of preservation, and I would recommend that it be declared a "protected monument" and that the Public Works Department be asked to do the few small repairs that are necessary and to clear jungle away from its vicinity.

71. *CHANDA, the Fort.*—Generally speaking, the wall and gateways appear to be in good order. Some Rs. 25,000 has been spent on the fort in former years, and in my opinion no more large sums need be expended at present. Estimates should be submitted only for filling cracks, cutting jungle and for other small repairs, unless something particularly urgent in the Engineer's opinion turns up. The fort is some six or seven miles in circumference with several large gateways leading into it.

XIX.—CHHINDWARA DISTRICT.

72. NILKANTHI, *Temple al.*—The following note was made by me after my inspection in November. In the list of proposed works for 1911-12, a sum of Rs. 370 is set down for collecting and protecting the remains of this temple. Very little of the temple, which is of the ordinary Brahmanical type, remains, the whole of the sanctum and the mandapa have collapsed, the entrance doorway and the two side walls of a small porch in front are the only portions standing. A column with capital and base also remain erect at either end of these walls, a large peepul tree is squeezing the right hand one and will shortly cause it to fall. The jambs and frieze of the doorway have carvings on them, and there is a small carved niche in both the flanking walls. All the fallen columns, capitals and other stones are lying quite near the temple, and there is no need to collect them. The only thing, which stands a short distance off is a portion of a column with an almost illegible inscription on it; this might be brought nearer. I think a wire-fence might be erected round these remains and all the small jungle be removed from within the area of the fence. The place should also be declared "protected"; no other work is, in my opinion, necessary.

XX.—DAMOH DISTRICT.

73. JABERA, *The Bansipur Dam* is a gigantic piece of engineering construction of several centuries ago. The river, which it was constructed to keep back has broken through again. The dam is built in steps with very large stones, all cut to the same size; a lot of jungle is now growing on it. Nothing need be done to it on an archæological score, though it might be declared a "protected monument" to prevent the possible pillaging of stone.

74. KUNDALPUR—Is practically a city of temples; some fifty being situated here. They are all Jain with the exception of two Vaishnava temples of the Gupta period, one of which has collapsed. Some twenty of these Jain temples are erected at intervals of two or three hundred yards along the top of a horse-shoe shaped hill, while the others are situated in the valley. Each is of a different design, but nearly all are square domed structures, plastered and white-washed. They are looked after by a Committee and may be said to be as a whole in very fair repair. There seems to be plenty of money at the Committee's disposal, as one of the larger temples has lately had a marble floor laid down. Several sheets might be filled in describing each individual temple, but as they are of no very great antiquity, this seems to me to be unnecessary. No subvention on the part of the Government appears to be called for.

75. Referring to the two small Gupta temples, I would advise that a wire-fence be set round them, the iron posts being fixed securely in concrete. One temple is past repair, but the other should have the platform of its porch underpinned with slabs from the ruined one. All vegetation on and near it should be uprooted, and if possible the large roots stretching under it should be destroyed. The roof of the porch should be jacked up at the north-east end, and the column twisted round into its proper position; care must be taken not to crack the superjacent slab. The two temples are within a couple of yards of each other; the fall of the ruined one was caused by the roots of a large tree, which may also be the ruin of the other if steps are not taken to prevent it.

76. NARSINGHGARH.—There are two forts here; one, which was erected by the Marathas, is now a complete ruin having been destroyed by the British. Much of the other built during the Muhammadan period is also entirely ruined, though a large bastion, some wallings and a mosque still remain at the north-east corner and two or three other bastions exist in other parts of the fort. The mosque consists of five chambers parallel to one another 41 feet long by 16 feet wide each, divided by 4' 6" walls, in each of which are three doorways and four pierced niches. Each vault has a pointed barrel vault running north and south; the easternmost one nearest the river has collapsed. South of the mosque is another chamber running east and west with a small square room at each end. South again is a square courtyard

much filled in with rubbish; there are remains here of Hindu corbellings for carrying projecting cave stones. West of this court are several small rooms, the west wall of which is in the same line as the front entrance to the mosque. The mosque and chambers are roofed with flat roofs and round the north and west sides of the former still stands an arcaded vaulted passage, the arches being six feet high by three feet wide and the passage three feet wide. A small stairway leads up to the roof.

77. At the north-east corner outside is a large bastion, the east side of which has partly fallen away, and the remaining portion of walling on this side is leaning outwards badly; this latter in all probability is the cause of the fall of the vaulting in the mosque. The river in the rains runs quite close under the fort and fairly high up the loose stone bank on which that part of the fort stands. It is now a vertical drop from the top of the bastion to the river, and the river having eaten away much of the bastion's support has caused its partial collapse. If something is not done speedily the whole of the bastion and east wall will have a similar fate. A small bastion at the south end of the existing walling is practically standing on nothing. The fort is most picturesque from the north-east, and it would seem a pity if it collapsed, though I am afraid a largish sum will have to be expended to save it. The owner I understand would be glad to have the mosque, which by the way appears to be no longer in use, repaired for him, but he does not wish the fort repaired. How much he calls fort and how much mosque I do not know, as two sides of the mosque are fort walls. At any rate it is useless to do any conservation work on the mosque until the wall on the river side is made secure. The building is stone faced outside, and of no great architectural merit, some decoration is introduced at the entrance to the mosque, but inside it is only plastered and whitewashed. The corbels mentioned above are not particularly interesting, and plaster is coming off the arcading on the mosque roof. If the place is to be conserved, it should be only on account of its picturesque appearance from the north-east.

XXI.—DRUG DISTRICT.

78. DEO BALODA, *Temple of Siva*.—Repairs recommended by Mr. Longhurst in 1908 have been completed. I paid a visit of inspection in April 1911 and found that on the whole a difficult piece of conservation work had been carried out in a very creditable manner. The present existing portion of the little temple is now in good condition, the remains of the fallen Shikara have been dismantled and a flat terraced roof has been put over the sanctum at about a foot higher than the level of the mandapa roof. Three piers have been erected in the mandapa to support stone lintels, which were cracked. The attention of the Public Works Department has been drawn to some smearing of mortar and to some whitewashing that spoils the workmanship, which in other respects is very good.

XXI.—JUBBULPORE DISTRICT.

79. BURGAON, *Temple of Somnath*.—There are remains of several old temples outside this village, but all are now mere heaps of stones, except the above-named and one other, which has six or seven well carved columns standing with three lintel stones resting on them. The few repairs that are required at the *Somnath Temple* I have set down in a Conservation Note. The roofed portion of the temple is about 20 feet square; it faces east and the two sides are continued beyond the square eastwards, and on returning on the front form two large plain piers five feet wide and about twelve feet high. Sculptures were at one time dowelled to these piers, but have now disappeared; only dowel holes now exist together with a moulded base against the southernmost pier, on which the sculpture stood. The back and sides of the temple are quite plain, the monotony of blank walls being relieved, however, by their breaking out towards the centre of each wall, each return being about one foot. A well carved string also runs round these sides. On the east side, the two piers above-mentioned form a kind of unroofed porch ten feet wide.

It seems curious that there should have been no roof, but I cannot see how a roof could have been erected without covering up the carved lintel of the main entrance. There are carved jambs on either side of the porch entrance, but one has fallen and needs to be refixed. The temple doorway is approached from the porch by three steps. The riser of the lower one is well carved and the second has very elaborate sculpture on its face; the carved part of the latter is 18" high and stands on a plinth one foot high, which together form a riser of 2' 6". The sculptures are chiefly figural with some fretwork patterns here and there. These two steps run the whole width of the porch and on the upper one the jambs of the doorway stand; the third step is a small threshold stone in the entrance. The doorway measures 9' high by 4' 6" wide and is supported on either side by moulded jambs, at the bases of which are some elaborate sculptured figures. The head or lintel of the doorway is quite simple, except that in the centre and over each side-post the face is slightly advanced, and figures are sculptured on the advanced parts; the effect is uncommon and quite pleasing. The temple is built on a high platform projecting three feet all round from the building.

80. Inside there are three steps down into the sanctum. Two pilasters stand on either side of the entrance and carry lintels. In the corners between the back and side walls are also pilasters and a large corbel is in the centre of each wall. The pilasters have moulded bases, and both they and the corbels have moulded capitals. The usual method of bringing the roof to an octagon by cutting off the corners and forming octagons and then finishing with a flat stone is adopted here.

81. BHERAGHAT, *Temple of Chhaunsath Jogini*. All the broken parts of the images, which are set up round the circular enclosure wall of the temple court have been collected and put together, as far as possible, by Pandit Natesa Aiyar and now form a very interesting collection. About half the sculptures are protected by a roof which is constructed with old columns, lintels and large flat stones, which are the remains of an old temple that formerly stood on the site, on which the present modern one has now been erected. I have recommended in a Conservation Note that a roofing, similar to that described, be erected over the remaining sculptures, which at present have no protection against the weather.

82. GARHA, *the Panchmatha temples*.—Situating about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of Jubbulpore are a number of small temples, most of which are of no architectural or archæological interest, and are quite modern. But one group of temples, seven in number, also modern having been built about 1746, are quite interesting and form a very picturesque cluster. These are set on a raised platform and are constructed with rubble plastered, except in the case of the capitals, pilasters, bases and brackets, which are of stone. They are built round a small irregular shaped court, and are of varying shapes and styles, and each is domed differently. The mouldings of the capitals and bases of the pilasters, which stand on either side of the temple doorways, are also of various designs. The temples appear to have each been built at a different date, though in all probability within a very few years of one another. The temple of principal interest has well carved brackets representing elephants, which carry balconies, which again support kind of kiosks; this one seems to be the oldest of the group. All the temples are in use for the worship of Siva. The owner says he can afford to have worship performed, but expresses his inability to do repairs to the temples. In a Conservation Note I have recommended to the Government that a few small repairs should be undertaken, and that jungle on and near the temples should be exterminated.

83. PANAGAR, *Vishnu Varaha Image*.—I paid a visit, together with the Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Eastern Circle, in April to inspect the platform, on which the boar incarnation of Vishnu is lying. It had been proposed to repair the platform at a rather greater cost than seemed necessary, and I have written, since my inspection, a Note showing how it should be conserved. There is nothing of interest here except the boar. The idol before it was broken was a monolith measuring roughly 5' 6" long by 2' 6" high and stood on a low pedestal in the centre of the platform. When I saw it

only the base and the four hoofs remained in position on the pedestal, the body then lying a few feet away. The face has been badly mutilated and the four legs have been broken off, only two of which remain on the site. The body, which has richly carved parallel and horizontal bands, about 3" high, of divine figures running round it, is in good preservation.

84. MAJHOLI, *Vishnu Varaha Temple*.—The temple itself is quite modern and of no interest architecturally, being only a plastered and whitewashed structure of no antiquity. However, there is inside an exceptionally fine boar incarnation of Vishnu. The sculpture is a monolith measuring 6' 4" from the ground to the top of the head, 5' from the ground to the rear part of the back and 6' 10½" in length. It is elaborately sculptured all over the body with parallel rows of horizontal carving. The animal is in very good condition and well looked after by the people. A few old sculptures are built into the walls of the modern edifice, all of which have been whitewashed, and at the entrance to the sanctum, which contains the boar, is a very low and old carved stone doorway with carved wooden doors. I have recommended in a letter to the Central Provinces Government a few repairs, which the Executive Engineer, who visited the temple with me, and I decided ought to be carried out.

XXIII.—MANDLA DISTRICT.

85. KUKKURMATH, DINDORI, *Temple of Ranmuktesvara*.^{*}—Judging from photographs Mr. Consens has put the date of this temple at the 9th century or possibly earlier, while Dr. Bloch dates it between 800 and 1200 A.D. It was in all probability originally built by the Jains as it is said that there was a Jain community here. A large sculpture of a naked seated figure in the attitude of meditation with a much decorated halo at present leans against the west wall. The temple is of no great size, but is beautifully decorated and well worth preserving. A punitive policeman stationed in the village did much to help to destroy it by removing stones from the platform, with which to build himself a hut. He has undermined the structure badly and left it in a most unsafe condition. Steps will shortly be taken to remedy this evil and the platform will be rebuilt with the old stone and other repairs, which are urgently necessary will be undertaken. I have submitted a Conservation Note to aid the Public Works Department in the framing of an estimate for repairs, and I hope the work may be commenced during the current financial year.

XXIV.—NARSINGPUR DISTRICT.

86. CHOWRAGARH FORT, *Temple near*.—To reach this place it is necessary to ride eight miles from Mohpani station on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway to a village named Chowgaon. Then one has to walk up a hill strewn with rocks and fallen trees and through spear grass up to one's neck. The route taken is along what used to be a path very many years ago, but which is now no longer in use. Having reached the fort, which is an entire ruin, after an hour and a half to two hours' walking, one passes through the remains of a gateway, and the temple in question is found some ten minutes further on, a little way down the hill, surrounded with jungle. There is a good tank on the top of the hill and some of the land here appears to have been cultivated in the old days, but now everything is covered with trees and jungle.

87. The temple is about 20 feet square and roofed, with a dome so covered with rank grass that its shape cannot be made out. A porch or verandah, stands in front, which is supported on four columns of different designs, the alternate ones being carved with chains and bells and the other two being plain. They are of varying heights and appear to have been brought from elsewhere. Two of the stone lintels have gone, and there is now no roof to the verandah. The temple is entered by a door, both the jambs of which have disappeared, though the lintel, a plain chamfered stone, remains. Inside, two shallow pilasters are set in each wall, the lower stone of which in each case has disappeared; the bases, quite simple ones, remain, as also do

^{*} See Plate I.

the corbelled capitals. The interior is ceiled by laying stones across from pilaster to pilaster, and thus forming an octagon; corners are then cut off for three or four courses when the ceiling is brought to a square again for two courses and the square hole is filled by the top course. Small niches about 18 inches square are set between the pilasters. A lotus leaf pattern string or dado runs round the inside and also the outside. There are two similar pilasters as those in the interior on each wall on the outside, the lower half of each has likewise disappeared. The walls of the building are of stone plastered.

88. I do not recommend that much shall be done to this building in the way of conservation. All jungle should be cut and cleared away for some forty feet round the temple and all vegetation should be removed from the structure itself. One pilaster stone should be attended to and a loose stone or two should be reset, the doorway lintel should also be supported. The interior must be cleaned out and a wire door and frame be set in the doorway to keep out bats. A bolt and spring to keep the door shut should also be provided. When the vegetation is removed from the dome, all cracks should be filled and the whole made water-tight. The verandah should be made safe, and if the missing lintels be found, they should be refixed in their old positions. No attempt should be made to "restore" lost portions; the conservation of existing work, with the addition of replacing missing stones, if they are found, is all that is needful. J. K. visited the temple on 19th February 1911 and carved his initials and the date—this interesting piece of information might be erased.

XXV.—NIMAR DISTRICT.

89. BURHANPUR.—In a Conservation Note I have noticed all repairs that I consider are needed to the buildings here. An estimate has been prepared and countersigned by this office for repairing the *Tomb of Adil Shah*. I have recommended that the *Tomb of Nadir Shah* near the above shall also be conserved; it did not appear to me to be in any worse condition than *Adil Shah's Tomb* and is larger, more decorated, and in my opinion a finer building altogether. In my note I have made suggestions for preserving the only remaining dome of *Bibi Sahib's mosque*. I think it should be possible to do it without any great expense. The *Raja's chhatra* requires a few repairs; it is an exceedingly pretty and well proportioned little structure. The *Jama mosque* and the *tombs of Nawaz Khan* and *Shah Shuja* are in good condition, and nothing more than small annual repairs are required.

90. MANDHATA, the *Siddhnath Temple* was repaired some years ago upon instructions received from the Viceroy (Lord Curzon). What remains of it now is in good condition, the conservation work having been well executed. All stones and sculptures, which could not be refixed have been collected and placed round the temple and form the compound wall. Among them I noticed one whole column and several bases, capitals and friezes. I have recommended on a Conservation Note that this column, together with a base capital and frieze be re-erected on the platform of the temple. There are many places, from which columns are missing, and as there happens to be an unbroken one, I see no objection to its being set up again; the cost should not be great. The unbroken bases might also be moved on to the platform and placed in the position they formerly occupied. At the south-west corner is the remains of the old plinth, which is the only key to the original plan of the base of the temple. I think it might be possible to select, from the miscellaneous collection of stones round the compound, more of these plinth stones and to have them set in their approximate former positions.

91. *Chaubis Avatar Temple*.—Situated on the north bank of the Nerbudda river near the point where it divides and goes round the island, are several small temples, the most interesting of which is the above-named. It is so called because it used to contain sculptures representing the twenty-four incarnations of Vishnu. Of these I could only now find nineteen, but possibly the other five are at no great distance away. It was proposed some years ago to remove these sculptures to the Nagpur Museum, but objections were raised and the work was not proceeded with. I would recommend that

the temple, which is now in rather a dilapidated condition, be put in good order, or sufficiently so, to serve as a proper shelter for the sculptures, and that it and its contents be declared "protected" under the Ancient Monuments Act.

XXVI.—RAIPUR DISTRICT.

92 *SIRPUR, the Lakshman Temple.*—Repairs to this ancient brick temple are at last finished, and I think on the whole they have been exceedingly well carried out. I rather doubt the correctness of the carved brick triple arched projections on either side of the triangular opening over the entrance. In old photographs the work at this point is shown to be decayed altogether, and as there are no other carvings of a like design anywhere else on the building, I don't quite see from where the design was obtained. In my letter No. 62A.S., dated 26th February 1912, I have drawn the attention of the Executive Engineer to the manner in which the flanking walls on either side of the entrance have been constructed. At present they are by no means beautiful, being built quite rightly of small bricks for about two thirds of the way up and then finished off horizontally on the top with large modern bricks and a plaster coping. It is true this was shown quite plainly in the estimate and plans, but it should not have been allowed to pass. The walls are only meant to help to support the old walls and sculptures, and there is no need to carry them to a greater height or for a greater distance than the old work, which still exists. The unnecessary portion of the brickwork should be dismantled and the wall should be made to follow the ups and downs of the old work, and need not be finished off horizontally on the top or vertically at the ends. Modern bricks should not be permitted to show; a layer of cement coloured to match the brick-work should be spread on the top of the walls.

93. The top of the Shikhara had fallen, and it has now been finished off by stepping the brickwork back for some twelve or fifteen courses and thus forming a roof: on the top of this a circular necking has been constructed. The latter is a little out of place considering that the stepped bricks are not like the original design, which we have no means of knowing, but only serve as a make shift for roofing the building; it may as well remain, however, as it is not at all conspicuous. The contractor had erected on the top of this an amalaka and a copper finial, but had been made to take it down before my visit. The temple is now in very good condition, but unless a sum is set aside annually for removing vegetation, it will soon go back to its old state of disrepair, as it is situated in the midst of the thick jungle and young jungle very quickly takes root in the many crevices and joints in the building.

92. *ARANG, the temple at* is in very good repair. Only the iron bands round the tower require painting or cement washing to prevent rust, and a new wire gauze door should be substituted for the present one. The existing one is made out of 1'×1" stuff and is much warped and the wire is broken; the new one should be constructed out of 3'×2" material and a spring and bolt should be provided to keep it shut.

J. F. BLAKISTON.

PLATE II.

Excavations at Basarh, 1912.



(1) Seal No. 8.



(2) Seal No. 93.



(3) Seal No. 55.



(4) Seal No. 800.



(5) Seal No. 200.



(6) Seal No. 572.



(7) Seal No. 159.



(8) Seal No. 248



(9) Seal No. 162.



(10) Seal No. 341.



(11) Seal No. 247.



(12) Seal No. 81.



(13) Seal No. 211.



(14) Seal No. 191.



(15) Seal No. 808.

CHAPTER II.

EXCAVATIONS AT BASARH IN MUZAFFARPUR DISTRICT.

EXCAVATIONS AT BASARH.

THE trial excavations carried out in the citadel of old Vaiśālī, now known as Rājā Bisāl kā Garh, at Basarh, in the spring of 1912, were taken in hand on the recommendation of Dr. J. Ph. Vogel. Dr. Bloch had made excavations at several points within the limits of the ancient fortress, and had recovered a very valuable lot of inscribed seals, chiefly of the Gupta period, which proved the interest and value of the site. And as it appeared to Dr. Vogel and myself, both from Dr. Bloch's published account of his operations, and from our own inspection of the site in November last, that only the surface strata had been touched, it seemed reasonable to hope that deeper digging might expose older levels of occupation and yield still more important material. It was in this hope, therefore, that the work at this site was recommenced in the season under review.

Dr. Bloch had made a partial examination at altogether eight points, numbered A to H on the general plan published by him, in Plate XXXIII, of the Director-General of Archæology's Annual Report for 1903-04. Of these, the three numbered D, E and F in the south-east quarter of the mound, were by far the largest and most important excavations. The level of the surface at these points is somewhat raised above the general level of the mound, and Dr. Bloch had thought that this was possibly due to the presence, in this portion of the site, of the royal residence which is supposed to have been included within the fort area. His own digging had not disclosed any remains here susceptible of such an explanation, it is true, but he had found a perfect maze of walls, of three apparent periods, although he had not gone deeper than 10 or 12 feet anywhere except inside wells. It was abundantly clear that the area had been thickly and repeatedly occupied, and that in the Gupta age, at least, it had been the site of something in the nature of Government offices, since many of the seals found here were of an official nature. This particular tract, therefore, seemed *per se* worthy of further investigation. But there were yet other considerations which led me to take up the work at this point in direct continuation of Dr. Bloch's excavations. The first of these was the desirability of having these three diggings, D, E and F, thrown into one, so as to permit of a continuous mapping of this area, which would give one a fairer idea of the general plan of this portion of the site than was possible with Dr. Bloch's three detached and irregular drawings. But the most cogent reason of all for beginning here was that the villagers, since the time of the previous excavations, had completely removed all the walls uncovered by Dr. Bloch. That such was the case was certainly regrettable, but it incidentally cleared the ground for any one who, like myself, was anxious to get below the level previously reached, and explore the depths of the mound. Dr. Bloch had laid bare the occupied level of at least the 3rd or 4th century A.D., with traces of older remains here and there, and it was obvious, therefore, that in taking advantage of the clearance of this area, I was starting some fifteen or sixteen centuries nearer to my goal than I should have been by beginning at the surface.

First of all, the southern edge of Dr. Bloch's northern pit D, and the northern edge of his southern pit F, were cleared, to enable my draftsman to join up the three plans into a connected whole with greater accuracy. Some few of the foundations previously uncovered in pit D were found to

have been subsequently reburied instead of removed, and these served as connecting links between the old plans and the new one. In addition to these a number of very small square chambers were discovered on the south of D, and a finely constructed square masonry well, which proved to be packed full of pottery.

While the clearance here was going on, a trench was started to connect Dr. Bloch's pit E and the more northerly D, and the level of E as a whole was lowered. A further trench, 22 feet in width, was subsequently led from F on the south to D on the north, and thus a connected plan for this tract was obtained. But trial trenches led to the north from the north-east corner of F did not disclose any important remains, and the intention of making a continuous and complete clearance of this portion of the site was therefore given up, when time and money were both found to be running short.

As regards my intention of exploring the lower levels, the following measures were adopted. The floor of Dr. Bloch's pit E was lowered throughout its area to a depth of some 17 feet from the ground level, and the trench from it to the north was taken down to even a slightly greater depth. Similarly deep trenching was attempted also at the north-east corner of Dr. Bloch's pit F. And a series of parallel trenches, running north and south, were led through the old pit D, starting from the level of Dr. Bloch's excavations. But we were nowhere able to get through the entire depth of occupied soil. At a few points a depth of eighteen feet or more was reached, and a level closely approximating this was cleared over a considerable area, but below this point the sub-soil water prevented further deepening. Abundant human evidences of one kind and another showed clearly, however, that the lowest level we reached was still well above virgin soil. Fragments of pottery and other palpable proofs of occupation could be recovered even when one thrust one's arm down as far as possible through the sub-soil water, in the small trial pits we sank here and there, while at one point interesting traces of occupation were recovered in connection with fairly large shellfish of the clam order, whose development I should suppose must have required a considerable period of flooding at this level. I am forced to conclude therefore that the sub-soil water in general has risen considerably since that period of antiquity when this fortress was first built, and I doubt if the oldest levels of occupation will again be accessible until some exceptionally dry season occurs to lower the water materially throughout the neighbourhood. This present year the water was unusually high. Dr. Bloch seems to have found it quite appreciably lower in 1904. But I cannot believe that the large shellfish which we dug up were the product of any one season, and it seems more probable that when we reached the level of these creatures, we had touched the level of permanent saturation. Ichthyologists will perhaps be able to inform me as to the locomotive powers of such animals. If they can move through the saturated earth freely, it is of course evident that the significance I find in their presence does not actually attach to it, as they may have merely come up higher than usual with the unusually high water. But it would be difficult to conceive of creatures less mobile in appearance than these clams, and in the absence of ichthyological knowledge, I can only conclude that they were permanently at home where we found them.

If this is the case, it is a fact fraught with serious consequences to the archæologist, as it means that the oldest, and presumably the most interesting, levels of the important citadel of old Vaiśālī are, generally speaking, now closed to exploration. How regrettable this is will be apparent when it is mentioned that among the clams was found a fragment of dressed sandstone showing that magnificent polished surface which we have learned to associate with the name of Aśoka.

Generally speaking, however, it must be acknowledged that the lowermost levels now opened up for the first time were disappointing. No monumental remains of any kind were found in the trenches underneath Dr. Bloch's digging in pit D to the north, except one round well and a wall or two of no apparent importance near to it. And on the south, in pit F, our deepest diggings yielded nothing. In pit E the lower levels were more productive, while even at a depth

of sixteen to eighteen feet in the trench leading out of pit E to the north, large numbers of seals and pottery were found. Even pit D was not barren, by any means, as occasional seals and other small remains were found, and to the east several very large square bricks of an antiquity manifestly greater than any of the wall met with. It seems probable that we were at this point in the close vicinity of some structure of really great age, but unfortunately the few *disjecta membra* already mentioned were the only traces of it we recovered. Nevertheless they are sufficient to prove with certainty the occupation of this portion of the site at a very ancient period. The bricks found were, in my opinion, comparable to those used in the construction of the ancient Jānkīgarh in the north of Champāran, or to those laid at the base of the Aśoka column at Rāmpūrwa. They presumably date back well into the pre-Christian centuries.

In addition to continuing Dr. Bloch's excavations in the south-east portion of the mound, I also undertook the tentative examination of the north-east portion. Dr. Bloch had argued from the higher level of the surface towards the south-east that the royal residence stood in this quarter. This argument does not appear to me convincing. With a long, narrow rectangular enclosure like Rājā Bisāl kā Garh, the sole entrance to which across the surrounding moat lay demonstrably on the south, the south-east quarter of the enclosure would seem to me in the abstract a most improbable situation for the royal palace, which must naturally have been the most prominent structure within the walls. The natural position for the palace would seem, theoretically, to be either the exact centre, (where there are no surface indications) or the northern end of the enclosure, by which location the palace would gain greatly in the length, and consequently in the dignity, of the approach to it. Dr. Bloch himself had hoped to find something like a courtyard surrounded by the palace buildings, as is clear from his report. But such an arrangement as this would hardly have resulted, after collapse, in a continuous, even, and elevated plateau-like surface to the enveloping mound. The external configuration which it would be natural to expect, would be a more or less well-defined quadrangle of high ground, with a sunken or depressed area in the centre. To the south-east no such configuration is traceable, and the greater elevation of the surface may well be due to the continuance of occupation in this, the most accessible region of the fort, for a longer period than elsewhere. In the 7th century A.D., when Hiuen Tshang visited Vaiśālī, he found the fortress sparsely occupied. Very possibly the few houses he saw were, for the convenience of the inhabitants, as near the entrance as possible. This would mean in the general area examined by Dr. Bloch, and the greater elevation of the surface here would thus be due, not to the magnificent proportions of the ancient monuments here, but to the accumulation of modern ruins. And the relatively modern walls, assignable even to the Muhammadan period, which were found here, point to the reasonableness of this assumption. (I realize in writing this that it is easy to be wise after the event). But, to the north, something closely approaching the expected configuration does exist. That is to say, there is an extensive and well defined (although irregular) depression, surrounded by high banks of uncertain outline. Theoretically this appeared to me much the most promising place to look for the royal palace. I accordingly determined to explore this area.

To enable me to register my finds with precision, while avoiding the crowding of my plan with isolated numbers of each article, I had had my large scale plan of the site divided into squares like a map, lettered on top and numbered down the side, for ease and accuracy of reference. In determining a series of trial diggings across this north-east area, therefore, I decided not to sink longitudinal trenches, but to mark out on the surface squares corresponding to the squares of my plan, and by digging these separately, to attain greater precision in my registration of finds, and greater clarity in my subsequent report. The system worked most satisfactorily.

A series of eleven squares was outlined, extending from the north-east angle of the fort wall well towards the centre of the mound (men were not available for more extensive measures), and each one of these squares was thirty feet to the side. The area opened out by one of these pits was thus nine hundred square feet of surface, or the equivalent of a trench one hundred feet long and nine feet wide. The eleven pits together, therefore, covered a fairly extensive area.

In locating them, two objectives were kept in mind; first, to have the line cross the large depression and the high banks north and south of it, so as to open out this area sufficiently to show whether any palace courtyard existed here; and, secondly, to have it cross the edge of the mound to the north so as to lay bare, if possible, part of the enclosing wall of the fort.

Cunningham had hunted in vain for this wall in 1880-81, and Bloch with almost equally negative results in 1903-04; but it seemed so improbable that the wall should have disappeared totally that a fresh attempt to find it seemed desirable.* My pit was therefore outlined to cover the extreme edge of the mound, a little to the west of the actual angle, where there seemed every hope of meeting with success. But my results were disappointing. We did not, it is true, attain any very great depth at this point, as the pit was only seven feet deep when the work had to be closed. But our absolute failure to find any walling at all, or any evidence of any, except quite superficial modern structures, now indicated merely by scattered brick débris just below the surface, certainly makes it seem most improbable that any ancient masonry ramparts existed. The short stretch of wall six feet thick which Dr. Bloch found to the north-west was evidently not of ancient date, as its base was too near the surface; so that the three attempts made so far to recover the ramparts of old Vaiśālī have all equally failed. But a hint as to the reason for this was gatherable from my own operations. I found absolutely no walling, as has been stated, but on the other hand I did find very noticeably sandy soil, more sandy than usual so near the surface. Is this not perhaps an indication that the only protection given to the fortress was an embankment or wall composed of the earth thrown out in digging the surrounding moat? If such was the case, it explains both the presence of the sand and the absence of masonry débris, and this solution of the problem may therefore be accepted provisionally until further deeper digging affords evidence for a final judgment.

The advancing season and the increasing heat forced me to close the year's work before any of my trial pits had reached a really satisfactory depth. The northernmost one was seven feet deep, the next six feet three inches, the next eight feet, the next seven feet, etc. Only in one, No. S 25, which was the farthest to the south, was a reasonable depth attained, viz., 15 feet, and this was due to the fact that near the surface walls were found which greatly reduced the area to be excavated. No definite answer, therefore, can be given to the question regarding the significance of the large depression here and the possible existence of palace buildings around it. But no positive evidence in support of this assumption was recovered. A number of walls were found, many very near the surface, and abundant evidences of occupation everywhere, but certainly no structural remains were encountered which could, with any reason, be interpreted as appertaining to a royal residence.

So far as the search for the palace of Vaiśālī is concerned, therefore, the present year's excavations cannot claim to have been successful. But I am not so discouraged, as perhaps I ought to be, even in regard to this question. No certain traces of any palace were found, it is true, but our examination of this new ground was only very partial, and the existence of important remains underneath the lowest level we reached here is still a possibility. The evidence afforded by our minor finds in this portion of the site, although it was slight, was at least not discouraging, for a few of the beads recovered and a number of the terracottas were clearly of a higher class than those found to the south, and may point to the occupation of this section by a higher social class. It would be rash to base any large deductions on such trifling evidence, but nevertheless it is reasonable to appreciate to the full the evidence we have, and it certainly seems at least as much encouraging as otherwise. Further exploration may yield more. But it must be acknowledged that up to date the only direct trace found of anything like an important building was a single

* I believe Dr. Bloch's rather scornful allusion to General Cunningham, on page 17 of his Provincial Report for 1903-04, must have been based on a misunderstanding. In Volume I, page 56 of the Archaeological Survey Report, where Cunningham traces the ramparts and the corner towers, his language is ambiguous, and one naturally understands him to mean masonry structures. That none such were traceable is clear, however, from his second report for 1880-81, where he states definitely that he excavated in search of such walls without success. The ramparts, etc., of 1871 were therefore only of earth.

fragment of finely polished black marble or similar stone, which appears to have been presumably part of a lintel or a door jamb in some temple. The actual walls found were simple brick affairs of a few courses only and of no evident significance. But they were all fairly near the surface and deeper trenching is desirable. I regret that I was not able to accomplish this this season.

As to smaller finds the excavations were more successful, and may be said to have yielded fairly well. We recovered an extensive collection of pottery of very various forms, every piece of which was carefully registered. It is hoped that the collection may constitute a useful addition to the material now existing for a sound scientific study of the development of the potters' art in India. Such material is more limited than one would imagine, owing to the fact that in the past excavators have too often despised such objects unduly, and failed to record their findspots with sufficient accuracy to render their specimens useful for study. But scrupulous care was taken in the present case that every fragment should be registered. Altogether they number 640 specimens and consist in bowls, dishes, cups, jars, flagons and the like, of a considerable variety of shape.

We also recovered large numbers of clay figurines and wheels of clay carts, such as are common at such excavations in this country. Most of these were evidently toys, of the nature of the famous "clay cart" of Shudraka's drama, and are too well known to call for comment. But one little model of what seems to me a bear standing on a hemispherical base is a more ambitious product of the potters' art. Most of the terracottas recovered were of the usual inferior sort, coarse and crude and void of interest, but not so all. One little terracotta head is most admirably modelled, and will compare favourably with other objects of this class anywhere. While of still larger interest are a small number of terracotta plaques, found in the north-east section of the mound, which are in every way superior. Their texture is much finer than that of the others, their colour, especially in one case, is excellent, and their general modelling and artistic feeling quite admirable. There is a very definite style about these little plaques, which will make them welcome additions to our collections. But it is to be regretted that they are so very few, and broken and fragmentary in most cases. Other specimens of this same class are much to be desired, for they are the best specimens of ancient terracotta work which I, at least, have seen in India.

But by far the most valuable and interesting finds made this year at Basarh are our clay seals. It is extraordinary how plentiful these documents are at this site. Dr. Bloch recovered between seven and eight hundred in his excavations and this year's work has yielded some two hundred and fifty more. At first sight these figures do not compare favourably, but it should be remembered that Dr. Bloch found a single chamber containing over seven hundred, and throughout the rest of his excavations recovered only ten. Thus to have found two hundred and fifty this year in general digging, without any such special hard as he had the good fortune to hit upon, is distinctly encouraging. It shows in what enormous numbers they must be scattered throughout the mound, for we found them in all portions of the site and at all depths, from just below the surface to a depth of eighteen feet. There is reason to hope, therefore, that the thorough excavation of the mound would yield very richly. And as these inscribed seals are most interesting, and sometimes shed definite light on the political, religious, and artistic history of ancient India, as well as being direct material for the fascinating study of Indian gems, they are documents well worth the labour and expense of recovering. Dr. Bloch had the fortune to find a number of larger official seals, from which interesting deductions could be made in regard to the system of government in force in the Gupta period. In this respect the present year's finds were less satisfactory, but in point of variety they are exceptionally rich. In Dr. Bloch's great hoard were very many duplicates (in one case he found 274 specimens of one seal) so that his different varieties numbered only 139, excluding 66 pieces discarded as useless. This year the highest number of duplicates of any one seal is seventeen, while our different types number over one hundred and sixty. So that as regards variety of material the yield is really as great or greater than that of 1904.

But the present collection is of less historic interest, perhaps, as it consists of a much larger extent of private seals bearing only the names of individuals. There are a few official seals which promise to prove of interest, and one seal in particular calls for special mention even in this preliminary report.

This (*vide* Plate II, figure 4, seal No. 800) is a fairly large, square seal, in excellent preservation, bearing three very archaic symbols of the kind familiar from punch-marked coins, and a three-line legend in characters of the ancient Mauryan period. It appears to me to read with tolerable certainty as follows:—

Ve sã li a nu
ṭa kã re
Sam yã na ka.

The first line and the third one are in larger letters than is the second I therefore propose to read—

*Vesãli Anusamyãnaka
Takãre*

and, this I would explain as:—

*The Vaiṣãli Patrol
Takãra (out-post)*

taking the root *yã* with *anu-sam* as meaning “to walk up and down as a guard, (Monier Williams). In other words, I understand the document to be a seal of the Metropolitan Police of Vaiṣãli at the branch station or outpost of Takãra, which I take to be the name of some village in the neighbourhood, within the jurisdiction of the Vaiṣãli municipality. I thus make it out to be very direct and positive evidence for the identity of Basarh with Vaiṣãli, and far and away the oldest bit of concrete proof for this identification yet found, as the seal may safely be ascribed, in my opinion, to the third century before Christ.

But a still more interesting theory has been advanced in regard to it. In a private letter a friend (who does not wish his name to appear, much to my regret, as it lends great weight to the suggestion) proposes the following reading:—

“ *Vãsã 30, anusamyãna-kãle
kaṭe*

i.e., 30 years (have passed) (seal) made at the time of the quinquennial inspection. He draws attention to the *anusamyãna*, or quinquennial tour of inspection, ordered by Aśoka, as stated in his Edict III. The letters *ka le*, he says, seem to have been omitted at first, by an oversight, and afterwards inserted above the third line in reduced size, the *le* having suffered in the process. He further suggests that if the second line is to be read *ṭakãre* beyond all doubt, (as appears to me necessary from my study of the original), the legend would run *anusamyãna + kaṭaka + ãre*, and would seem to mean at “the top of the hill (?) (or camp?) where the *anusamyãna* was held.”

This is a most ingenious and interesting suggestion, and so much more brilliant than my own that I have asked permission to publish it, although to my regret I do not yet feel quite prepared to accept it. It seems to me less probable, somehow, than my more prosaic version. I wish to add, however, that by a curious coincidence, the seal was actually found in the corner of the fort, where a royal camp for one of the quinquennial inspections might very well have been located. This fact was not known to my friend in making his suggestion.

As has been mentioned above, I assign the seal to the third century B.C., which makes it one of the oldest seals yet found in India. Dr. Marshall, the Director-General of Archæology, and likewise Mr. Banerjee of the Indian Museum, have, however, been kind enough to call my attention to other inscribed seals of closely similar date. Dr. Marshall himself found a seal of at least equal, if not greater, age in his excavations at Bhita (*vide* Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society, January 1911, Plate III) and three of great

antiquity are published by Cunningham in Plate III of his *Archæological Survey Reports*, Volume XV, as having been found in the Ganges near Patna. So the present specimen is by no manner of means the oldest seal in India, but it may perhaps claim with reason to be the most interesting and the most valuable among the few which have come down to us from this remote period.

A well-cut stone matrix was also recovered this year of equal or possibly greater age, but it is of the type published by Cunningham and appears to bear only a private individual's name. I read it:

Shujatashasa.

at present, but this may have to be modified later. The *aksharas* are jumbled together, and it is not quite obvious in what order to take them. The only device on the seal is a taurine.

The rest of the collection are not yet ready for publication, as the legends they bear require further study in many cases. Where only one specimen of a seal exists, and its lettering is faint or incomplete, the decipherment of the document is often very puzzling. But even in this preliminary report, brief mention may be made of the following as of special interest:—

(1) Nos. 8, etc. (*vide* Plate II, figure 1). Oval area; device, lion seated facing, legend,

Vishṇudāsasya.

i.e., “(the seal) of *Vishṇudās*.”—Of this seal eleven specimens were recovered. It is frequently associated with another seal showing an unmistakable stupa and the legend—

Śreshṭhinigamasya.

which means (seal) of the guild of bankers. *Vide* Plate II, figure 15, seal No. 808. *Vishṇudās* was therefore a banker, and apparently had a large business, to judge from the frequency with which his seals are met.

(2) No. 54 (not illustrated). Oval area, fully occupied with the large finely drawn figure of a recumbent boar. No legend. Only one specimen of this fine seal was recovered, which is regrettable, as it is artistically among the most interesting. Unfortunately the specimen is too faint for successful photographic reproduction.

(3) Nos. 55, etc. (*vide* Plate II, figure 3). Rectangular area, with ornamental band as border; device, small seated lion, facing. Legend:—

Nāgaśarmmasya.

“(seal) of *Nāgaśarmma*.”—Seventeen specimens were recovered, but they are all single seals, so that we have no clue to the personality of *Nāgaśarmma*. But he must have been a person of some importance, as among all the seals found this year his are the commonest.

I may notice in this connection how very difficult and dangerous it is to base large or positive deductions in regard to the age of finds in the citadel of Vaiśālī on the mere detail of the depth at which they are made. Our seventeen specimens of *Nāgaśarmma*'s seal were all found within a limited area, it is true, which could be represented as a rectangle 150' long by 90' wide, in the south-east quarter of the site. But whereas one of them was only 4' 6" deep, one 6' 6", one 6' 9" and another 7' 3", two were 12' 6" deep, three were 14' and one was even 15' below the surface. On the other hand, the very ancient matrix mentioned above was 12' 4" deep, while the Mauryan seal No. 800 was only 6' 3" underground. And to cap the climax we discovered at a considerable depth, an amulet of dark green colour, bearing what appeared to be a religious motto in Arabic, and the unexpected legend “*Made in Austria*”! But despite this positive evidence, it would seem hazardous to conclude that the house of Habsburg, ancient as it is, ruled in Vaiśālī before the Mauryans. There is, however, no doubt about the reading of the inscription.

(4) No. 81 (*vide* Plate II, figure 12). Oval area, concave: device, a small śankha. Legend—

Chandradāsasya.

“(Seal) of Chandradās.”—Who Chandradās was it is impossible to say, as we have only this single specimen, from a depth of fifteen feet. But he was at least a person of sound artistic sense, for his seal is very elegant in its simplicity and the neat exactness of its cutting. The lettering has a more modern look than one would expect on a seal from so great a depth.

(5) No. 93 (*vide* Plate II, figure 2). A large oval area, fully occupied by a highly decorated barge on which stands, on what appears to be a raised platform, a nude goddess, facing; conch-shell, etc., in exergue. No legend. Interesting for its very unusual device.

(6) No. 159 (*vide* Plate II, figure 7). Oval area, without legend, but bearing as device a most interesting drawing of an ancient hemispherical stupa which seems to have a square receptacle on top surmounted by very long, waving streamers. The Buddhist railing is clearly indicated round the base. Only one specimen of this valuable seal was found at a depth of eleven feet.

(7) No. 162 (*vide* Plate II, figure 9). An oval, deeply concave area without legend, but showing as device a winged lion, standing to right. This was the only example of a winged lion recovered, and it has an un-Indian appearance.

(8) No. 191 (*vide* Plate II, figure 14). A magnificent seal, long oval area, with an animated figure of Nṛsiṃha (the oldest in India) seated on an altar with the left knee bent and the right foot resting on a long footstool. I am tempted to read the inscription as—

Kumāra Narasiṃhaguptasya

making it a seal of Prince Narasiṃhagupta, the seventh of the Imperial Gupta monarchs, and so far as the elegance and artistic merit of the seal are concerned, there would be no incongruity in the ascription. But it must be confessed that the lettering is now very obscure, and in proposing even tentatively the reading noted above, I am conscious that perhaps the wish is father to the thought.

(9) Seal No. 200 (*vide* Plate II, figure 5). A large official seal, with oval area $2\frac{1}{4}$ " long by 2" wide. The device is a standing figure of Lakṣmī, facing, with the usual elephants to right and left above, and a śankha and one uncertain object in exergue. The legend is not absolutely certain, but may be read provisionally as—

Vaiśālī-nāma-kunḍa kumārā-mātyādhikarāṇasya.

What can be meant by *kunḍa* I cannot at present say. The whole would seem to mean “(seal) of the office of the Crown Prince’s minister at the *kunḍa* named *Vaiśālī*,” but this reading is presumably open to correction. I believe, however, that the only uncertain *akṣaras* are those I render as *nāma kunḍa*, and that the seal is definitely a further bit of evidence for the correctness of the identification of Basarh with Vaiśālī. This is apparently the only seal of the Local Government which we recovered, and it would seem to point toward Vaiśālī having been under a Royal Viceroy of the ruling dynasty whose capital was Pāṭāliputra. There is certainly nothing inherently improbable in this hypothesis, the more particularly when we remember that Aśoka himself, when a young man, was Viceroy at Taxila; and it may perhaps be claimed that seal No. 191 mentioned above tends to confirm the theory. Why should not Prince Narasiṃhagupta have been Viceroy of Vaiśālī before coming to the Imperial throne, and why should this not be the official seal of one of his ministers of state?

(10) Seal No. 211 (*vide* Plate II, figure 13). An oval area without legend showing a most interesting animated figure of a woman (?) in the act of skipping a rope. The rope might easily be mistaken for the edge of a halo were it not for the position of the arms, in whose hands it seems certainly to be held, and for the posture of the legs, the weight of the body being thrown on to the left leg, which is bent at the knee indicating the moment of the descent, while the right foot is apparently bent to the rear, just as the rope has passed it. The design is thus one of singular animation and attractiveness, and it is to be regretted that the original legend has become effaced on this our only specimen. It is noteworthy that it was recovered at a depth of only 3' 3" although it is certainly a very ancient seal.

(11) Seal No. 247 (*vide* Plate II, figure 11), found 12' 9" deep. This is a seal of exceptional elegance and character, with a broad oval area, well placed in the centre of which is a fine, spirited image of a seated lion, to left, the mane and curling tail being drawn with fine heraldic feeling. The legend, which is in very ornate characters, reads—

Vishnudāsasya.

"(Seal, of *Vishnudās*." This gentleman must have commanded considerable respect in the local Herald's College.

(12) Nos. 248 and 347 (*vide* Plate II, figure 8). Two specimens of a rounded oval sealdevice standing bull, facing, in centre; long legend in Gupta characters arranged around the edge in which mention occurs of some *mahākshatrapa* as yet unidentified. The arrangement of the legend and the device in these specimens is curiously reminiscent of the departmental seals of the Government of India of the present day. They have a modern look about them in curious contrast to the antiquity of their lettering. Unfortunately the legend is considerably worn in the same portion of both specimens.

(13) One of our most artistic seals is No. 341 (*vide* Plate II, figure 10), a square oval area, slightly concave, with a double lined border to give it finish. The device is a very spirited horse, running to left, while in the foreground, disposed more to the left, is the figure of a boar apparently running to the right. In point of animation and artistic grouping of its figures, this seal, which is without legend, is second to none in our collection. We are fortunate to have secured two specimens, one from 12', the other from 13' 5" deep.

(14) No. 572 (*vide* Plate II, figure 6) is also a very interesting seal, as in this case the one lump of clay shows four distinct impressions, being two impressions each from two separate matrices. One shows a well posed male figure with floating draperies, standing to left, with the right hand stretched out over a highly conventional figure of some sort which may represent a fire altar although it looks more like a triply pointed mitre, while the other, which also has an oval area, shows the figure of a lion seated with open jaws to left, on a rectangular slab or platform. It may of course be mere accident, but there is certainly a strong likeness between the lion on this seal and the famous *Aśoka* lion on the column at *Bakhra*, some two miles from where this seal was found. I have not yet read satisfactorily the legend underneath the lion, but it clearly refers to some military rank or office, and I am strongly inclined to explain it, therefore, as in some way an official military seal of some portion of the forces stationed at what is now *Bakhra*. It is at all events improbable that a seal so strongly reminiscent of the *Bakhra* lion capital should occur at *Vaiśālī* and yet have no connection with that monument. So that we shall probably be fully justified in looking upon this seal as a definite picture of the *Aśoka* capital, with the sole difference that a flourish has been given to the tail which the sculptor had the wisdom not to attempt. In ancient Greece famous statues were frequently engraved as devices for signet stones or gems, but, so far as I am aware, this is the first instance of any similar occurrence in India.

But this catalogue must not be continued in these pages further, although it is hard to resist the temptation to mention others of the one hundred and

fifty types before me yet to be described. The appropriate place for the discussion of these, however, is the Annual Report of the Director-General of Archæology, in whose magnificent pages the Provincial Officer finds most welcome opportunity for the illustrations without which descriptive writing of this kind is so painfully incomplete and so inevitably inadequate. The present paper is intended merely as the preliminary account of a season's work which has been attended, as will be apparent from the above, with a reasonable measure of success.

In conclusion I desire to express my obligation to the Director-General of Archæology for his courtesy in lending me two of his staff to assist me in the work. His excavation Assistant, Pandit Natesa Aiyar, and his draftsman, Babu Sohan Lal, attended my operations from their commencement in January until the 2nd March, and were of great help to me. Indeed, without them the work could hardly have been taken in hand, as I was exceptionally short-handed. Both were unfailing in their efforts to please, and their painstaking attention to their duties afforded me the highest satisfaction. Those who have attempted excavation work in this country with wholly inexperienced assistants will appreciate what it meant to me to have the services of these thoroughly trained men.

D. B. SPOONER.

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6	Bendall Library, Cambridge ...	1	24	Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, National Museum of Antiquities, Queen Street, Edinburgh.	1
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11	Trinity College Library, Dublin ...	1	29	Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies, London.	1
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15	Advocate's Library, Edinburgh ...	1	33	India Office Library, London, S. W. ...	
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17	Royal Society, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W.	1	Carried over ...		
18	Royal Society, Edinburgh ...	1	Carried over ...		
19	Royal Irish Academy, 13, Dawson Street, Dublin.	1	Carried over ...		
Carried over ...		19	Carried over ...		36

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<i>(b) Private Individuals.</i>			Brought forward ... 51		
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47	The Asiatic Quarterly Review, Oriental Institute, Woking.	1	AUSTRIA.		
FRANCE.			63	Imperial Academy of Sciences, Vienna	1
48	Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris	1*	64	Hungarian Academy, Buda-Pesth	1
49	Institut de France, Paris	1	Carried over ... 66		
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HOLLAND.			82	La Société Archéologique d'Athènes, Athens, Greece.	1
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73	Koninklijk Instituut van Nederlandsch Indië, The Hague, Holland.	1	83	North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, Shanghai.	1
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88	Secretary, National Museum, Washington, U. S. A.	1	102	Secretary, Bataviaasch Genootschap van Kunsten en Wetenschappen, Batavia.	1
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SIAM.			104	Director, Ethnological Survey for the Phillipine Islands, Department of Interior, Manila.	1
90	Vajiranana National Library, Bangkok ...	1		Total ...	106
BRITISH COLONIES.			II.—INDIA.		
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93	Melbourne Library, Melbourne, Australia	1	2	Officer in charge of the Records of the Government of India, Calcutta.	4*
94	University Library, Sydney, New South Wales.	1	3	Indian Museum, Calcutta ...	1*
95	Librarian, Victoria Public Library, Perth, Western Australia.	1	4	Home Department ...	2*
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97	Archæological Commissioner for Ceylon, Anurâdhapura, Ceylon.	1	6	Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy.	1*
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FOREIGN COLONIES.			9	Central Library, Army Head-quarters, Simla.	1
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	Carried over ...	102			

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	<i>(a) Institutions.</i>		‡26	Secretariat Library, Writers' Buildings, Calcutta.	1*
‡10	Secretariat Library, Fort St. George ...	1*	27	University Library, The Senate House, Calcutta.	1
11	University „ Madras ...	1*	28	Presidency College Library, 1, College Square, Calcutta.	1
12	Public „ „ ...	1*	29	Sanskrit College Library, 1, College Square, Calcutta.	1
13	Presidency College „ ...	1*	30	Asiatic Society of Bengal, 57, Park Street, Calcutta.	1*
14	School of Art „ ...	1*	31	Editor, Bengal Past and Present, Kidderpore Vicarage, Calcutta.	1
15	Government Central Museum, Madras ...	1*	32	Mahabodhi Society, Baniapooker Lane, Calcutta.	1
16	Christian College Library, „ ...	1*	33	Goethal's Indian Library at St. Xavier's College, 30, Park Street, Calcutta.	1
	<i>(b) Officials.</i>		(b) Officials.		
17	Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Southern Circle, Madras.	1*	34	Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Eastern Circle, Bankipore.	1*
18	Assistant Archæological Superintendent for Epigraphy, Southern Circle, Ootacamund.	1*	35	Board of Examiners, Calcutta ...	1
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20	University „ „ ...	1	(a) Institutions.		
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22	School of Art, Bombay ...	1	38	Secretariat Library, P. W. D., Allahabad	1*
23	The College of Science, Poona ...	1	39	University Library, Allahabad ...	1*
	<i>(b) Officials.</i>		40	Public Library, Allahabad ...	1
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25	Superintendent, Archæological Survey, Western Circle, Bombay.	1*	42	Sanskrit College, Benares ...	1*
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†48	Executive Engineer, Agra ...	1	63	The Bernard Free Library, Rangoon ...	1*
†49	District Engineer, Agra ...	1	64	The Phayre Museum, Rangoon ...	1
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	(a) Institutions.		‡66	Secretariat Library, Nagpur ...	1*
‡50	Secretariat Library, Public Works Department, Lahore.	1*	67	Museum Library, Nagpur ...	1
51	Punjab Public Library, Lahore ...	1*			
52	Museum Library, Lahore ...	1*		EASTERN BENGAL AND ASSAM.	
53	University Library, Lahore ...	1	‡68	Secretariat Library, Shillong ...	1
54	Government College Library, Lahore ...	1			
55	Bhuri Singh Museum, Lahore ...	1		COORG.	
	(b) Officials.		‡69	The Chief Commissioner of Coorg's Library, Bangalore.	1
56	Superintendent, Hindu and Buddhist Monuments, Northern Circle, Lahore.	1*			
	(c) Private Individuals.			NATIVE STATES.	
57	The Revd. A. H. Franke, care of Director-General of Archæology, Simla.	1		MYSORE.	
	NORTH-WEST FRONTIER PROVINCE.		70	His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore ...	1
‡58	Secretariat Library, Peshawar ...	1	71	Archæological Superintendent, Mysore ...	1
			72	Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore ...	1
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HYDERABAD.			INDIAN NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS.		
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74	The Resident's Library, Hyderabad ...	1	88	"Times of India," Hornby Road, Bombay	1
CENTRAL INDIA.			89	The "Englishman," 9, Hare Street, Calcutta.	1
75	Rajkumar College, Indore ...	1	90	The "Statesman," 3, Chowringhee, Calcutta	1
76	Library of the Agent to the Governor-General, Indore.	1	91	The "Calcutta Review," 12, Bentinck Street, Calcutta.	1
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78†	Public Works Secretary to the Hon'ble the Agent to the Governor-General, Central India.	1	93	The "Bombay Gazette," Bombay ...	1
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85	Baroda Museum ,, ...	1	100	Krishnagar College, Krishnagar	1
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86	His Highness the Maharaja of Travancore	1	103	Bethune College, Calcutta ...	1
	Carried over ...	91	104	Bihar School of Engineering, Bankipore ...	1
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111	Metropolitan Institution, Calcutta ...	1	131	Babu Hem Chandra Sarkar, Professor, Ravenshaw College, Cuttack.	1
112	Bihar National College, Bankipore ...	1	132	Babu Kasi Nath Das, Professor, Ravenshaw College, Cuttack.	1
113	Daulatpur Hindu Academy, Khulna ...	1	133	Babu Nesikanta Sanyal, Lecturer, Ravenshaw College, Cuttack.	1
114	Wesleyan Mission College, Bankura ...	1	134	Babu Rajkishore Das, Manager, Jagannath Temple, Puri.	1
<i>Other Institutions.</i>			135	Babu Harendra Narain Ray Mahasay, Zamindar, Lakhannathe, Balasore district.	1
115	Bangiya Sahitya Parishad Sabha, Calcutta	1	136	Raja Baikuntha Nath De Bahadur, Balasore.	1
116	Chaitanya Library, 4-1, Beadon Street, Calcutta.	1	137	Babu Prasanna Kumar Pal, Retired Assistant Engineer, Bhubaneswar, Puri district.	1
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121	Burdwan Raj Public Library, Burdwan ...	1	142	Mr. C. T. Ambler, Basowni Factory, Monghyr.	1
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123	Bengal Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta ...	1			
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